

V.P. Singh presents cabinet

NEW DELHI (AP) — Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh, who swept Rajiv Gandhi out of office with a pledge to fight corruption, presented a new council of ministers Tuesday that includes three of Gandhi's former ministers. Out of office were administered to 15 cabinet ministers and two lower-level ministers of state. Together they comprise the council of ministers, along with Singh and Deputy Prime Minister Devi Lal who were sworn in Saturday. No portfolios were announced during the televised half-hour ceremony presided over by President Ramaswamy Venkateswaram at the presidential palace. Singh told reporters portfolios would be announced Wednesday. He said more ministers would be announced later. The new ministers include Gandhi's estranged cousin and his former minister of state for home affairs, Arun Nehru; ex-Tamil Nadu Minister M. M. Mohan Kumar; and ex-Minister of State for Industry Arif Mohammad Khan. The ministers of state included Maneka Gandhi, Gandhi's estranged sister-in-law. Twelve of the ministers announced Tuesday are members of Singh's Janata Dal.

Volume 14 Number 4258

AMMAN WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1989, JUMADA AL OULA 7, 1410

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Badran to announce cabinet today

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Mubarak Badran said Tuesday that he would announce the new government in the next 24 hours. In a statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Badran said that, in accordance with the democratic life and the prevailing democratic climate in the country, he was continuing consultations to form his government. His Majesty King Hussein Monday named Badran to head the



Mubarak Badran new government after accepting the resignation of Shari' Zaid Ben Shakar.

N. Yemeni leader to visit Amman

By Marwan M. Shabib
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — In what appears to be the latest development in moves towards unity of the two Yemens, North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh is scheduled to pay a two-day visit to Jordan this week to discuss with His Majesty King Hussein his country's announced plans to merge with South Yemen.

Jordan and North Yemen are two of the four founding members of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC), which was formed last February along with Egypt and Iraq. The council has left the door open for other Arab states to join it, and South Yemen has said that its entry to the regional economic bloc was contingent on the unity of the two Yemeni states.

An official spokesman at the North Yemeni embassy here said Tuesday that the North Yemeni president was returning two visits paid by the King to North Yemen. Bilateral issues as well as matters related to the ACC will also be discussed between the King and the North Yemeni president, the spokesman added.

According to the spokesman, "the exact date for the president's visit will only be known tomorrow (Wednesday)." Other reports have indicated that the North Yemeni president was due here Thursday.

South Yemen's entry to the ACC was also believed to have been discussed during South Yemeni President Haidar Abu Bakr Al Attas's visit to Jordan in October.

According to Kuwait's Al Siyassah daily, the King and President Saleh would "review the Yemens' unity and preparations for the merger."

A joint statement on unity plans was made during a news conference in Aden, the South Yemeni capital, on Dec. 1 by visiting North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh and the secretary general of South Yemen's ruling Yemeni Socialist Party, Ali Salem Al Beidh.

The announcement of the agreement in Aden came as South Yemen was celebrating its 22nd anniversary of independence from Britain. Sanaa and Aden have signed a draft unity constitution which will be submitted to the legislative assemblies of the two countries for ratification within the next six months.

Sanaa and Aden began exploring the possibility of unity in 1971 but did not agree to the basic principles of unity until last May. Official representatives of the two governments had been meeting since then to work out the details of unification.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab paper daily published by the Jordanian Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الأردنية للتطوير

Hrawi pledges to seek Syrian pullout

Violence renews Lebanon tension

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Violence flared in Beirut and other parts of Lebanon Tuesday, and President Elias Hrawi pledged to ask Syria to withdraw its 40,000 troops if his government can restore its authority over the war-ridden country.

Police said 20 people were wounded in fighting in Beirut and South Lebanon between the Syrian-backed Amal militia and the pro-Iranian Hizbollah.

Four warplanes blasted Palestinian bases near Sidon, provincial capital of South Lebanon, in Israel's 17th air raid into Lebanon this year. Seven people were wounded.

The Israeli-backed, Christian-officer South Lebanon Army shelled the market town of Nabatieh and the nearby village Hadatha, north of Israel's self-designated "security zone," with howitzers. Eleven people were wounded.

Two civilians suffered minor shrapnel wounds in east Beirut during skirmishes between General Michel Aoun's troops and Syrian-backed militias.

Security sources said Syrian troops, whom Aoun has vowed to drive from the country, took no part in the fighting. Hrawi, elected president 12 days ago with Syria's backing, was threatened to oust Aoun by force from the presidential palace in the enclave. But he said last Friday he hoped mediation would defuse the crisis.

Hrawi was quoted Tuesday as

saying he would ask Damascus to withdraw its troops from certain areas when he had extended his authority to the Christian enclave.

"This will take place as soon as possible," he told Beirut's independent Al Nahar newspaper.

"We are peace seekers. But if others want to provoke a war for other parties' interests, we will quell it with all the means available to us."

Aoun told Britain's Channel Four television station that he wanted diplomatic mediation to end his struggle with Syria.

In South Lebanon, four Israeli jets raided bases of the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF) in the village of Majdalyoun.

Security sources said five guerrillas were wounded. A military position and a clinic were hit. Hospital beds were showered with debris and ambulances damaged.

In the eastern Bekaa Valley, Syrian army officers and Iranian embassy officials mediated an Amal-Hizbollah ceasefire clashes Monday killed 10 people and wounded 30.

Security sources said Amal Hizbollah agreed to allow Red Cross officials to enter Mashghara and other disputed villages.

Hizbollah freed 19 Amal militiamen captured Monday and both groups pulled fighters and heavy guns out of the villages.

However, the Amal was reorganizing its militiamen in the Bekaa Valley, apparently preparing

for a counter-attack to regain control of the villages of Sohar, Yohmor and Mashghara.

Amal lost the three strongholds to Hizbollah in fierce overnight fighting.

Syrian troops stayed out of the battles, but scores were deployed Tuesday at an Amal base at the northern entrance to Mashghara.

"Amal has lost all its positions in the western sector of the Bekaa which is now under the control of Hizbollah and the Syrians," the police spokesman said.

Skirmishes across Beirut's green line panicked the population which fears the political crisis between Hrawi and Aoun might plunge the country into another round of savage artillery duels.

The streets of Beirut were deserted after the first few rounds of gunfire echoed at midday (1000 GMT). Many residents ran straight to bomb shelters.

SLA gunners shelled South Lebanon for the fourth consecutive day.

Security sources said they wounded seven people in the village of Braasheet, just outside Israel's self-declared "security zone."

Five people were killed and more than 18 wounded in SLA attacks on Nabatieh Monday.

The Foreign Ministry said Lebanon has protested to the U.N. Security Council the bombardments of Nabatieh and surrounding villages, planning the attacks on Israel, which controls the 2,500-strong SLA.

'No specific superpower decision in Malta'

Kelly hopes for agreement on Mideast peace talks soon

CAIRO (Agencies) — A senior American official said Tuesday he hopes for an agreement "in the near future" on initiating Middle East peace talks.

However, John Kelly, an assistant secretary of state, indicated Washington does not consider it has Egypt's last word on a U.S.-proposed plan to do that, despite Cairo's insistence it has nothing more to say.

Speaking to reporters after meeting with President Hosni Mubarak, the U.S. diplomat said all sides in the Arab-Israeli conflict were discussing U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's five-point plan for an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue in Cairo.

"We have been working for months in harmony (with Egypt) and with deep respect for the contributions that Egypt has been making to the peace process," he said.

But he refused to characterize what Egyptian officials have described as Cairo's final answer to the Baker plan. The document, which embodies the position of the Palestine Liberation Orga-

nisation (PLO), was relayed last Sunday through the U.S. embassy.

Kelly also said the United States and the Soviet Union took no specific decisions at their rapprochement summit last weekend on how to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict.

"There were no specific steps agreed between the American and Soviet presidents," Kelly told reporters on arrival in Cairo after briefing Israeli leaders on the summit outcome.

"There was an exchange of views on the Middle East so I think there is a better appreciation of one and other's positions. I don't believe the Americans and the Soviets are working at cross-purposes."

U.S. experts and Palestinians said an agreement between Washington and Moscow on the Middle East could put pressure on Israel to give up occupied territories in return for peace.

But in Israel Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said after meeting Kelly: "I don't believe there will be pressure."

Kelly told reporters in occupied Jerusalem that Washington was trying to use its influence to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Israeli officials said Kelly told Foreign Minister Moshe Arens that U.S. President George Bush and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev agreed that Arabs and Israelis should work to resolve the conflict by themselves.

Palestinians in the occupied territories hailed the U.S.-Soviet rapprochement and said closer ties between the superpowers weakened Israel's stance.

"This will and should influence Israel's policy towards the whole conflict and thus Israel should be more willing to compromise," Ziad Abu Zayyad, a leading West Bank Palestinian figure, told Reuters.

A leading U.S. expert on the Middle East, Martin Indyk, said in Tel Aviv last week that changes sweeping Eastern Europe would diminish Israel's strategic importance to the United States, which supplies \$3 billion a year in aid.

Minority role for Czech Communists

PRAGUE (R) — Czechoslovakia's pro-democracy movement forced the Communist Party to accept a minority role in the Czech regional government Tuesday for the first time since it was set up in 1968. Communist Prime Minister Frantisek Pitra remained in office at the head of an administration in which seven other Communists were outnumbered by five independent ministers and two each from the Socialist and People's parties. Political sources said the composition of the government was a victory for the Civic Forum opposition movement which is also demanding a cut in the number of Communists in the cabinet of federal Prime Minister Ladislav Adamec. Portfolios in the regional government were hastily reorganized after the extent of popular opposition to Adamec's new government became apparent, they added. Communist leaders bowed to multiplying protests for the party to share power after almost three weeks of political crisis and demands for democratic reform.



Israeli soldiers force a Palestinian to wipe a drawing of a Palestinian flag off a stone wall

Israel says 5 'infiltrators' shot dead

37 children under 13 killed during uprising

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — At least 37 children under the age of 13 have been shot and killed by Israeli troops or civilians during the nearly two-year Palestinian uprising, an Israeli human rights organization said Tuesday.

Israeli troops shot and killed five guerrillas who infiltrated into Israel from Egypt to stage an attack, the military command announced Tuesday.

It said the clash occurred in the early morning hours after the guerrillas crossed the border from Egypt's Sinai peninsula into the western part of the Nagab desert.

An Israeli force encountered the guerrillas and chased and killed them all without suffering any casualties, the army said.

It was not clear to which organization the guerrillas belonged. They carried five Soviet-designed Kalashnikov assault rifles, five grenades, a pistol with magazines, binoculars and wire cutters, the army said.

In the occupied Gaza Strip, troops shot and killed a 17-year-old Palestinian and wounded 15 other demonstrators including a 10-year-old, hospital officials said.

The officials said Nasser Al

Kejek was fatally wounded with a plastic bullet to the chest and 10-year-old Hazem Erhayem was rushed to Gaza's Ahli hospital with a gunshot wound to the head.

The death raised to 626 the number of Palestinians killed by Israeli troops or civilians during the uprising.

Also Tuesday, police chased two Arab high school students through a hotel dining room in Arab Jerusalem where tourists were having lunch, threatening to shoot if the youths did not halt, witnesses said.

In the West Bank, hundreds of soldiers and volunteers were searching for a Jewish seminary student who disappeared Monday afternoon from the settlement of Maale Amos.

Residents of the settlement said Maadav left his house Monday morning, apparently planning to go for a hike, and never returned.

The Israeli Information Centre for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories said that 132 children under the age of 17 were shot and killed in the uprising, including 37 children under the age of 13.

The group, founded by liberal

Israeli politicians and academics, said the number of children fatally wounded by gunfire has been steadily increasing. Of the 37 children under the age of 13, nine were fatally wounded in the first year of the uprising, while 28 were shot during the second year.

Military authorities closed all schools in the Gaza Strip for 10 days from Tuesday and Palestinians reported widespread arrests of suspected activists in what appeared to be preventive operations to prevent violence on the Dec. 9 anniversary of the uprising.

Palestinians said 15 Arabs were wounded by army gunfire during clashes in the city and in Jabalya and Nusseirat Palestinian refugee camps.

Head of the Israeli army's southern command Matan Vilnai told Israeli army radio the Nagab attack was apparently linked to the anniversary of the uprising.

Vilnai declined to provide details of the clash, saying only that "all the infiltrators have been killed... the forces acted well, exactly as we expected them to."

Contrary to the army's statement, he said the guerrillas carried at least 50 grenades of different types.

Sudanese peace talks end without accord

NAIROBI (Agencies) — Peace talks between Sudanese rebels and the Khartoum government collapsed Tuesday in disagreement over the basic issues that have kept them at war for nearly seven years.

"In my opinion, neither side came to Nairobi prepared to take the difficult steps necessary for peace," said former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, who acted as an unofficial mediator in the five days of negotiations.

"Both sides, at the end, seemed ready to emphasise their

differences, postpone further action and let the war continue," Carter told a news conference, adding:

"There is no telling how many hundreds of thousands of people will die because these two sides have failed to reach an agreement."

Both Carter and the chief negotiator for the Sudan People's Liberation Army, Dr. Lam Akol, said the talks broke down principally over the government's failure to address the question of Sudan's Sharia law.

Honecker, inner circle under house arrest

EAST BERLIN (Agencies) — Former Communist Party chief Erich Honecker and other members of his ousted leadership have been placed under house arrest at their luxury residential compound, the official news agency ADN said Tuesday.

Earlier, East Germany's chief prosecutor resigned following mounting criticism that he was incapable of leading an investigation into alleged widespread corruption during Honecker's years in power.

ADN said "all former politburo members who after Oct. 19 were no longer members of the politburo and who are still in Wandlitz" were under house arrest. Honecker lost his job in a major power reshuffle Oct. 18.

ADN did not specify the number under house arrest in Wandlitz, this residential compound north of Berlin that has become a symbol of corruption and abuses

of the past.

"The former general secretary (of the Communist Party) and president, Erich Honecker, is among those who are not allowed to leave their houses in the elegant compound," ADN reported.

Wandlitz has 23 houses, once filled with politburo members and their families.

The 77-year-old Honecker has been in ill health following gall-bladder surgery last summer, and had been a virtual recluse in Wandlitz even before the house arrest was announced.

Honecker and his inner circle are under investigation for suspected corruption while three former politburo members are already in prison pending investigation.

Hours before Honecker's confinement was revealed, Prosecutor-General Guenter Wendland resigned after being showered with complaints that he acted too

slowly to uncover corruption among the former Communist Party elite.

ADN quoted his spokesman as saying Wendland and his deputy, Karl-Heinrich Borchert, handed in their resignations at the council of state, the head of state's offices. He gave no reason for their departure.

Corruption scandals have hit crisis-ridden East Germany like bombshells in the past two weeks and have brought loud demands at demonstrations and in the media for Wendland to quit because he failed to root out wrongdoing fast enough.

The resignations came a day after crowds of East Germans, angry about the corruption of former party bosses and the slow government response, had occupied police offices in three cities in a search for incriminating evidence.

About 2,000 people began demolishing the locked front entrance of a security police building in the southwest city of Subi Tuesday night before they were allowed in to inspect documents, ADN said.

In Erfurt and Leipzig, demonstrators shouting "rotten rabble" pushed their way into the once feared and avoided citadels of police power and rifled through files.

Wendland had been under heavy pressure to quit because of a perception he had bungled inquiries into misuse and corruption.

Government newspapers had raged at his failure to stop the party's top foreign trade official Alexander Schalck-Golodkowski from fleeing the country even though reporters had provided dossiers on his apparent misdeeds two weeks ago.

East Berlin has asked European, Middle Eastern and Latin American governments to help track down Schalck, who is wanted for arms trafficking and fraud — including the building of luxury homes for himself and associates at public expense.

On Tuesday, East Germany's ambassador to Switzerland said his country had sent out an international arrest warrant, asking countries throughout Europe and in Latin America and the Middle East for cooperation in the search for Schalck-Golodkowski.

The Communist Party central committee building in East Berlin was surrounded by security officials who checked cars and bags of officials leaving the party headquarters.

Offices and safes of former officials were placed under guard to prevent them from destroying or spiriting away documents.

Manila fighting spreads to exclusive neighbourhoods

MANILA (Agencies) — Hundreds of foreigners fled fierce combat between rebel and loyalist troops in the financial district Tuesday but thousands more were trapped for a fourth night after evacuation efforts failed.

A rebel source said the insurgents, who are seeking to oust President Corazon Aquino, might not allow all the trapped Americans to leave because of U.S. support for the government.

On Tuesday, fighting spread into exclusive neighbourhoods near where ambassadors from the United States, China and the Soviet Union live.

The rebel source said on condition of not being identified that the insurgents would release all Asian and European tourists but "the intention is not to release Americans."

On Friday, the first day of the coup attempt, U.S. F-4 Phantom fighter jets flew air cover in support of pro-government forces.

More than 74 people have been killed and more than 500 wounded since rebels launched the most serious attempt yet to topple Aquino's administration. Rebels say the elected government has failed to deal effectively with the country's Communist insurgency, corruption, incompetence and economic problems.

In addition to firepower, the government used emotional appeals in an effort to lure the estimated 400 defiant rebels.

In what appeared to be a move to wear down the resistance of the rebels holding around 15 high-rise buildings in Makati, the government televised scenes of their families pleading for them to lay down their arms and return home for Christmas.

"Come home, I don't want our children to be orphans," sobbed the wife of rebel leader Lieutenant-Colonel Rafael Galvez.

But Galvez, in a day marked by sporadic though often intense fighting that saw at least six people killed and more than 30 injured, said the rebels would fight on "for as long as necessary... until President Aquino steps down."

Galvez made the comment at a news conference at the rebel-held Inter-Continental hotel.

A Reuters correspondent in the hotel, in the heart of a sector where some 3,000 Filipinos and 2,000 foreigners are marooned, reported heavy fighting only one kilometre away in the late afternoon.

to Makati, the country's financial heart, was a pre-planned fallback in the event of the initial failure of the coup.

"We can hold on as long as we want to. There is going to be a snowballing effect," he said, dressed in fatigues and with a bandolier of bullets across his chest.

We want to have a reformed government, a good government," he said. "This government has been here for four years. Obviously it has not delivered on its promises. It has not delivered the goods. It has had its chance. It blew it."

Television footage showed a group of about 12 soldiers advancing on a rebel-held Makati high-rise behind two armoured cars firing cannons.

Defence Minister Fidel Ramos claimed over the weekend that loyalists had crushed the coup attempt. But rebels said Tuesday Aquino should meet rebel demands to "avoid the launching of phase two of the coup."

In a letter sent to news organizations, a coup leader said Aquino should set up a nine-person executive council on which she could sit, but which would also include opposition leaders Juan Ponce Enrile and Vice-President Salvador Laurel.

Soviets link ties with Israel to peace efforts

Upperflower price in fil per kg.	
11:15	Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
11:20	Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
11:30	Riyadh (RJ)
11:40	London (RJ)
12:45	Aqaba, Cairo (RJ)
12:50	Damascus (RJ)
12:50	Kuwait, Dhahran (RJ)
12:45	Bahaira, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
20:10	New Delhi (RJ)
20:20	Cairo (RJ)
21:15	Calcutta, Bangkok (RJ)
Other Flights (Terminal 2)	
06:15	London (BA)
06:15	Beira (A&E)
06:35	Lanema; Zurich (SR)
16:35	Rome (AZ)
16:35	Cairo (HAS)
11:00	Baghdad (IA)
11:00	Jeddah (SV)
13:15	Jeddah, Sana'a (FY)
15:00	Benghazi (LM)
15:10	Kuwait (CU)
15:10	Dhahran (RJ)
20:25	Sana'a (LS)
21:20	Karachi (PK)
Apple	420 / 380
Banana	420 / 400
Banana (Mukammur)	400 / 330
Beans	300 / 270
Cabbage	160 / 120
Carrot	220 / 200
Cauliflower	140 / 100
Corn	220 / 200
Cucumber (large)	300 / 250
Cucumber (small)	360 / 300
Dates	580 / 500
Eggplant	140 / 100
Garlic	350 / 250
Grapefruit	230 / 200
Lemon	200 / 130
Maxrow (large)	100 / 80
Maxrow (small)	220 / 180
Onion (557)	300 / 280
Onion (green)	160 / 120
Orange	440 / 400
Orange (Shamouni)	300 / 250
Pepper (hot)	150 / 120
Pepper (sweet)	160 / 120
Potato	320 / 270
Raddish	150 / 130
Sage	500 / 450
Spinach	100 / 70

MARKET PRICES

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

KING CONGRATULATES FINLAND: His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday sent a cable of good wishes to Finland's President Mauno Koivisto on his country's Independence Day anniversary. The King wished the president continued health and happiness and further progress and prosperity for the Finnish people. (Petra)

SCOUR LEAVES FOR MOSCOW: Ministry of Social Development's Secretary General Mohammad Scur left for Moscow Tuesday to take part in meetings by United Nations experts on experiments in socio-economic changes around the world. The meeting aims to find the best means of providing service to the developing world. (Petra)

TRAINING COURSE: A training course started in Aqaba Tuesday for a group of Boy Scouts and Girl Guides from the Ma'an and Tafleh Governorates. The three-day course will orient the participants on skills to enrich the Scout movement in the country. (Petra)

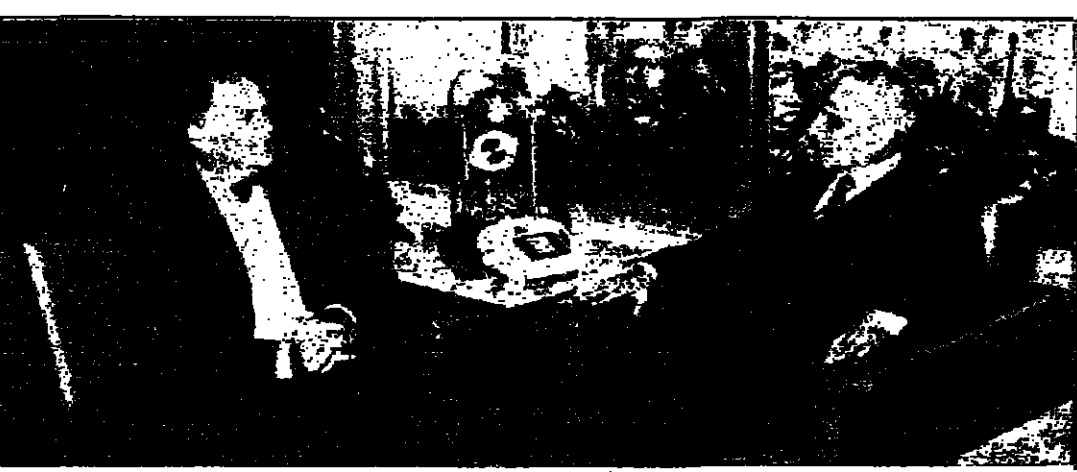
VOLUNTARY ACTIVITIES: Charitable societies in the Deir Alla and South Shuneh districts in the Jordan Valley Tuesday carried out a number of voluntary activities in observation of the International Volunteer Day. The societies organised cleanliness campaigns and visited hospitals and kindergartens carrying gifts to the children and patients. (Petra)

TREE PLANTING IN IRBID: Irbid Municipality Tuesday announced the start of a campaign to plant trees in the southern regions of the city and along roads. It said that 3,000 olive and forest trees will be planted during the campaign. (Petra)

EXHIBITION: An exhibition displaying publications on the Palestinian issue will open Wednesday at the Yarmouk University at 4:00 p.m. by University President Mohammad Hamdan. The exhibition, which will be held on the occasion of the intifada entering its third year, includes publications and paintings demonstrating the Palestinian cause and showing the stages of the Arab-Israeli conflict and Israel's oppressive measures against Arab citizens in the occupied territories. The exhibition runs through Wednesday, Dec. 13. (J.T.)

ART EXHIBITION: Under the patronage of Palestine National Council Speaker Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Saeh, an art exhibition by Khalid Al Maazi will be opened Sunday, Dec. 10, at the Soviet Cultural Centre. The exhibition will continue until Dec. 16. (J.T.)

JD 15,000 LOAN: The Cities and Villages Development Bank Monday announced its approval of JD 15,000 loan to the village of Hamid in Mafraq. The loan will finance road construction projects in the village. (Petra)



Lawzi receives British, Kuwaiti ambassadors
AMMAN — Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi Tuesday received separately in his office British Ambassador to Jordan Anthony Reeve and Kuwait's ambassador Suleiman Salem Al Fisan. They called to offer their congratulations to Lawzi on his appointment as speaker of the Upper House (Petra photo)

Abu Qoura calls for world peace, help for poor countries

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) has issued a call to all world organisations to help establish and enhance world peace and to help developing and poor countries to overcome present difficulties.

The call was made by JNRCS President Dr. Ahmad Abu Qoura during his visit to Madrid where he took part in a general meeting by Spanish Red Cross Societies, called to discuss means of alleviating the sufferings of poor and needy people around the world.

Abu Qoura said that in an address to the meeting, he called on to world governments and organisations to give due attention to the need to feed millions of starving people and to end all forms of conflict which cause the death of innocent people around the world.

In 1986, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) spent 44 million Swiss francs on relief operations to help victims of drought in Africa and displaced people in wars, Abu Qoura noted.

Bar association to take part in Sana'a meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Bar Association will participate in the meeting of the permanent bureau of the Arab Lawyers Union which is due to open in Sana'a, North Yemen, Saturday.

Bar Association President Wahid Abdul Hadi who will lead the Jordanian delegation said that the bureau will discuss a number of issues which include organising legal seminars to discuss the unification of laws and legislations in North and South Yemen, judicial matters and matters of concern to the bureau's activities.

Abdul Hadi said that the four-day meeting will also elect the bureau's members and officials.



Diplomatic Women's Club celebrates anniversary
AMMAN — The management of Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental, Tuesday celebrated the third anniversary for the Diplomatic Women's Club in Jordan. The party, which was attended by various ambassadors' wives and members of the diplomatic corps in Jordan, was entertained by music and folkloric songs representing their countries (J.T.)

Workshop reviews assistance to disaster victims

AMMAN (J.T.) — Participants in a regional workshop on environmental health, which was opened last Saturday, reviewed a working paper on emergency situations and assistance to victims in natural disasters offered by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The working paper, presented by WHO officials at the meeting also outlined measures to be taken in preparations to deal with emergency cases at the government and private levels.

The workshop, which is attended by delegates from 23 Arab and foreign countries, including Jordan, was opened by Health Minister Zuhair Malhas who drew attention to the plight of victims in Middle East conflicts, pointing in particular to the Palestinian people who were rendered homeless and living through very difficult health and environmental conditions over the past four decades.

The five-day workshop was organised by the regional Centre for Environmental Health Activities (CEHA) in cooperation with the Ministry of Health.

NAF provides care for 1,000 homeless children

AMMAN (J.T.) — The National Aid Fund (NAF) is now providing proper care to 1,000 homeless and abandoned children through the help of foster mothers who together receive some JD 10,000 a month for their service, according to NAF's Director General Khalil Al Faouri.

As of the start of January 1990, monthly payments will be paid to the foster mothers through the post offices so as to save money and efforts needed to be given to the needy, Faouri said in a statement to Al Dustour daily news paper.

He said that the children who are now living with a total of 235 families represent a portion of the destitute children living in very difficult conditions and who the NAF is trying to discover and offer help.

Help to the children, is part of the NAF's programme initiated in the Kingdom in 1986 and which now offers various forms of assistance to the needy families, Faouri noted.

He said although aid totalling JD 200,000 is being distributed to some 10,000 needy families in the country on a monthly basis, it is estimated that double that number of families exist in the country.

The NAF, Faouri noted, pays up to JD 40 a month to each of the needy families, but statistics available to the NAF indicate that their care no less than 2,000 families in Jordan whose monthly income does not exceed JD 50.

In view of the situation, Faouri said, the government now plans to create a special system that would enable the NAF raise funds from private and public organisations so as to ensure the minimum level of living for each of the needy families and to deal with the pockets of poverty in the Kingdom.

Apart from providing monthly payments for the needy, the NAF offers lump sums to heads of families to start a small business and conducts a programme of vocational training to qualify the heads of families to earn a living on their own, Faouri pointed out.

Teams of officials employed by the NAF roam the country's urban and rural areas, conducting studies on families applying for assistance before any decision is taken on giving help, Faouri noted.

So far, Faouri said, the NAF has set up 270 income generating projects for the needy families around the country, altogether costing JD 250,000.

Referring to the types of families qualifying for aid, Faouri said they include orphans, widows, divorced women, families of imprisoned men, the aged and the incapacitated persons.

To help these people, Faouri said, the NAF also ensures free health and medical services for them at government hospitals and health centres.

Faouri noted that the NAF has an annual capital of JD 3 million mostly, coming from government funds, with the private sector currently providing some JD 100,000.



Lower House speaker receives 3 envoys
AMMAN — Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Sulaiman Arar Tuesday received in his office Soviet Ambassador Alexander Zinchenko who conveyed his government's congratulations to Arar on his appointment as House speaker following the Nov. 8 general election. Arar also received separately Spanish and Saudi Arabian ambassadors to Jordan Ramon Armengod and Sheikh Mohammad Al Fahd Al Issa (Petra photo)

Jordan attends Arab talks on social development

TUNIS (Petra) — Jordan is taking part in meetings of the Arab Ministers of Social Affairs Council which opened in Tunis Saturday with the participation of all Arab League countries.

The three-day meeting is dedicated to discussing ways to promote social development in Arab countries and developing and promoting the operations and programmes of organisations such as the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development.

Various social development programmes by Arab countries and training of personnel to carry out social development work in the coming three years, are also to be discussed at the meeting, according to an Arab League official here.

Questions pertaining to the status of Arab women, protection of children's rights and family planning will be reviewed along with assistance to the victims of natural disasters and forced migration.

According to the official all forms of aid to the people of the occupied Arab territories will be reviewed with the purpose of increasing support for the steadfast people in the face of Israel's atrocities and repressive actions.

Several speakers who dwell on the subject of Palestine paid tribute to the Palestinian people's intifada and the Palestine Liberation Organisation's policy of seeking a permanent solution to the problem in implementation of Arab League summit resolutions.

The speakers at the opening session also dwell on the situation in the Gulf and Lebanon, urging the Arab League to exert further efforts to establish lasting peace in the two areas.

Jordan to attend meeting of Arab pharmacists council

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan will take part in the 13th meeting of the Arab Pharmacists Federation's Higher Council meeting which will start in Baghdad Saturday.

Jordan Pharmacists Association (IPA) President Tayseer Al Himsi, who will lead the Jordanian delegation, said in a statement Monday the council will discuss a request by the Egyptian Pharmacists Union to join the federation and will follow up the implementation of previous resolutions.

On the agenda also are financial and professional issues as well as the federation's relations and contacts with Arab and foreign organisations, on pharmaceutical affairs, Himsi said.

Jordan will also take part in a meeting by the Arab lawyers bureau which will convene in Sana'a, North Yemen, Saturday.

The four-day meeting is expected to discuss conferences needed to discuss the unification of laws in the Arab World, judicial matters of concern to the Arab countries, and unification of legislations in North and South Yemen.

WHAT'S GOING ON

- The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.
- EXHIBITIONS**
- ★ An exhibition of paintings and etchings inspired by Arabic Islamic art at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation.
 - ★ An art exhibition by artists from Jordan and other Arab countries at Al Wasiti Gallery, Plaza Hotel.
 - ★ Book exhibition at the University of Yarmouk.
 - ★ An art exhibition by Ghassan Al Hamsi, Abid Atwan and Abdullah Nawarabadi at the Jordanian Plastic Artists Association, Shmeisani.
 - ★ An art exhibition of water colours by Jordan artist Ahmad Ismail at the Gallery, Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental.
 - ★ An exhibition organised by the Goethe Institute entitled "The Blue Rider" at the Jordan University of Science and Technology, Irbid.
 - ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artist Shahr Marji at the British Council.
 - ★ A book exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre.
 - ★ An exhibition which includes publications on the Palestinian issue at the Yarmouk University — 4:00 p.m.
 - ★ A photographic exhibition, held on the 150th anniversary of the invention of photography, by Karine and Demitrev at the Soviet Cultural Centre.
- SEMINAR**
- ★ A seminar, in Arabic, on plastic art at the Royal Cultural Centre — 5:00 p.m.
- FILM**
- ★ Documentary films on the Palestinian intifada at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation — 6:00 p.m.

Live your real life
Enjoy yourself
Let happiness into your life

For happiness, luck, health, protection, harmony and success,

wear your birth stone

The most precious gift you can give yourself or your loved ones available loose, in 18 or 21 KT. gold.

Necklaces, worrybeads, ashtrays, clocks and other decorative items that cater to all budgets.

All Purchases covered with international guarantees

Christmas special 20% discount

World Resources
Amra Hotel Shops, 6th circle
Amman

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

جوردن تايمز جريدة عربية سياسية مستقلة تصدر بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية

Editorial Director:

RAKAN AL MAJALI

Director Général:

DR. RADI AL WAQFI

Editor-in-Chief:

DR. WALEED M. SADI

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,

University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4, 684311, 684366

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times Advertising Department.

One for all, and all for one

ALTHOUGH the Royal letter of designation to Prime Minister Mudar Badran was technically addressed to the new prime minister and his cabinet, it should be construed also as addressed to the Parliament as well. As the speech from the throne was also technically addressed to the new Houses of the Parliament, it was also meant to be a speech to the entire country, including the three branches of government. Otherwise it would be impossible for any new prime minister or a new Parliament on their own to carry out the long and difficult mandate assigned to either one of them. That is why one would expect the new Parliament, especially the Lower House, to extend a cooperative hand to the new prime minister in order to make it possible for him to implement the various chapters in the Royal letter of designation.

To be more specific, most of the contents of the letter of designation to Prime Minister Badran would require new legislation on the basis of new policy guidelines that have to be first aired out in the Parliament and then translated into laws. There is simply no alternative to a working relationship between the executive and legislative branches of the government based on mutual respect. Unlike all previous occasions, when there was no effective Parliament in operation, the new cabinet of Prime Minister Badran will have to stay in close contact with the Parliament with a view to harmonising their perspectives and priorities. And while such a new found relationship between the two branches of government may not be an easy sailing, it is bound nevertheless to consolidate and fortify the democratisation process in the country. The first sign of this new relationship is the time taken to form the new cabinet. The consultations undertaken already with various currents and movements within the Lower House of the Parliament is a sure sign that the Kingdom is at the threshold of a new era in operational parliamentary system of government.

What remains to be done is even more formidable than what has already been achieved. The policy guidelines contained in the Royal letter of designation embodies a long list of what needs to be done locally, regionally and internationally. For one thing the new government would need much time to deal with the challenges and issues presented in the Royal letter of designation. Above all, however, the new government of Mudar Badran needs the cooperation of the Parliament and the people of Jordan who elected the new Lower House of Parliament. In view of the grave dangers and challenges that lie ahead, it is time for all Jordanians and branches of government to unite like no time before and manifest a clear determination to overcome all the hardships facing the Kingdom be they economic or political.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

ALL Arabic dailies on Tuesday discussed the resignation of the government of Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and the formation of a new cabinet by Prime Minister designate Mudar Badran.

Al Ra'i Arabic daily praised the outgoing prime minister and his colleagues in government which, it said, exerted strenuous efforts over the past few months to confront the difficult situation in the country and to pave the ground for a successful general election. The paper said that over the past months Sharif Zeid has been involved in dealing with one problem after another with particular attention on means of implementing an economic reform programme that would save the country from its present difficulties. Praise for the outgoing prime minister is widespread and overwhelming not only for his dedication to serve the country, but also for his government's measures over the past few months to ease matters for the public and to do away sternly and firmly with elements causing harm to national interest, the paper added. The paper said that Jordanian citizens are grateful to the man who helped the Kingdom to take bold steps towards parliamentary democracy.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Tuesday focuses attention on a statement by the President of the United Arab Emirates Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan Al Nahayan in which he expressed his outright indignation over the United States attitude towards the Arab Nation. Ibrahim Sakdhijha says that Sheikh Zayed has frankly and openly expressed his astonishment over the seemingly friendly relations between the Arabs and the United States at a time when Washington continues its biased attitude towards Israel. The writer echoes Sheikh Zayed's words: "How long will the Arabs maintain their close ties with the United States which backs Israel's aggression on the Arab nation." Sheikh Zayed said Israel would not have pursued its aggression on the Arabs had it not ensured for itself continued backing and assistance from the United States, the paper notes. The writer wonders whether this policy would be copied by other Arab leaders and whether this open and candid policy will characterise future policies in the Arab World.

Al Dussour daily said that by designating Mudar Badran to form a new government in Jordan, King Hussein has thus opened a new chapter in the Kingdom's march towards development. The King has emphasised the importance of this stage in Jordan's political life and presented the new government with a set of guidelines and directives to follow, with the purpose of achieving the aspirations of the Jordanian people, said that paper. The letter of designation to Mudar Badran was comprehensive and contained directions for the government in the foreign, domestic and pan-Arab affairs; and also underlined the importance of boosting democratic life in the Kingdom. One of the main points in King's letter of designation to Badran was that which urged the government to deal with the problem of unemployment and to end the pockets of poverty in Jordan, said the paper. It noted that the King was open and clear on the question of public freedoms and about the need to offer equal opportunities to all sectors of the public.

Bush, Gorbachev tried to get a grasp on a changing world

By Barry Schweld
The Associated Press

MARSAXLOKK BAY, Malta — U.S. President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev moved closer together at their Mediterranean summit on curbing the nuclear and conventional arms races and ending the cold war.

But they also discovered the pace of events, especially in Eastern Europe, is rapidly outstripping the capacity of the world's two most powerful leaders to shape the future.

As Bush and Gorbachev were winding up their two-day summit Sunday, the entire politico and Communist Party central committee resigned in East Germany. Orthodox Communism is on the run, crumbling faster than anyone had predicted.

While Bush flew in for the summit Thursday night, the Philippine government urgently sought help from its powerful ally to fight off a military coup. Bush's preparations for the summit had to compete with evaluating the threat to President Corason Aquino and the extent of U.S. military intervention deemed necessary to protect her.

Even the weather gave the two leaders a stomach-tossing display

of how unpredictable the world can be. Stormy seas forced them to rearrange their schedule and cancel both a Saturday afternoon meeting and a dinner that night.

Despite it all, Bush and Gorbachev found common ground on the direction they would like the world to take and agreed the road ahead is a long one. While there were no arms-control breakthroughs or specific timetables set for treaty-signings, the two pledged to work together to that end.

"We stated, both of us, that the world leaves the one epoch of cold war and enters another epoch," Gorbachev said. "This is just the beginning. We are just at the very beginning of our long road to a long-lasting peaceful period."

The tentative nature of their joint venture is reflected in the absence of any concrete agreements, and the evident failure of Bush to halt the delivery of Soviet arms to rebels in El Salvador.

The pipeline, which the administration claims runs through Cuba and Nicaragua, was denounced by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker on the eve of the summit as "a relic of the cold war."

U.S. officials said Gorbachev, in discussing the explosive issue

with Bush, professed not to know how the anti-aircraft launchers and other arms got to the leftist

Salvadoran rebels. The United States backs the Salvadoran government.

Summit results

VALLETTA (R) — U.S. President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev discussed a wide range of issues at their first summit. Here is an at-a-glance picture of points they chose to outline:

U.S.-Soviet relations: Both hailed new era of cooperation rather than competition between superpowers and stressed they had established good working relationships.

Arms control: Agreed to pursue strategic arms reduction treaty slashing arsenals of inter-continental nuclear weapons by about half in time for a summit in United States next June.

Naval disarmament: Bush rejected a Soviet proposal to add naval forces to the agenda of Vienna talks on cutting conventional forces in Europe.

Chemical weapons: Gorbachev said they made some progress on chemical weapons disarmament treaty.

Central America: Bush said they had narrowed differences. He complained arms were still reaching leftist insurgents fighting U.S.-backed government in El Salvador but accepted Gorbachev's assurance Moscow was no longer sending weapons. Bush suggested the Sandinista government in Nicaragua was not being truthful with Moscow about sending arms to El Salvador.

Eastern Europe: They agreed liberal reforms under way in Eastern Europe were dramatic and evolutionary change. Both made plain they did not want to see changes spin out of control and destabilise all of Europe.

Trade: Bush proposed measures to integrate the Soviet Union into the Western economic system. Bush offered Soviet Union most favoured nation status when it completes liberalisation of emigration laws and pledged to back observer status for Moscow in GATT.

Perhaps mindful of fast-paced events in East Germany and in all other Warsaw Pact countries except Romania, Bush and Gorbachev spoke modestly of U.S. and Soviet powers to manage history.

"In our position," Gorbachev said, "the most dangerous thing is to exaggerate. We always should preserve elements of cautiousness."

Bush said: "It is not for the United States and the Soviet Union to design the future for Europeans or for any other people. I am convinced that a cooperative U.S.-Soviet relationship can indeed make the future safer and brighter."

In that vein, Bush and Gorbachev determined to speed the completion of three arms control accords — to banish chemical weapons, reduce long-range nuclear missiles by 50 to 60 per cent, and to reduce troops, tanks, artillery and other conventional forces in Europe.

On the other hand, the summit produced no specific accords to attain those goals. Nor did the leaders establish a schedule for completing the three treaties, although they both said they hoped to place their signatures on a nuclear arms cut when they

meet next summer in the United States.

It is one thing to urge negotiators on, and another to make the sort of command decisions that breaks deadlocks.

Gorbachev underscored how much remains to be done. For instance, he would like a ceiling placed on warships as part of the disarmament process. Bush agrees. The U.S. navy will be reduced, but only by domestic budget constraints and not by the negotiating table.

And no deal was struck to limit nuclear-tipped cruise missiles carried aboard submarines and surface ships. That is the toughest issue in the strategic weapons field.

On the conventional arms front, meanwhile, Gorbachev registered the Kremlin's complaint with NATO attempts to trim thousands of Soviet warplanes that Moscow claims have a defence mission.

Repeatedly, however, Bush stressed the common ground he found with Gorbachev. He also made U.S. support for perestroika, the restructuring of the Soviet economy, concrete with an offer of trading privileges.

"It was a no-agenda meeting," Bush said. "It accomplished everything I hoped it would."

Coup threat will continue to haunt Aquino

By Ruben Alabastro
Reuters

MANILA — Philippine President Corason Aquino may have won her latest battle with rebellious soldiers but coup threats will haunt her until she deals decisively with the causes of dissension in her army, political analysts say.

Aquino faces a long-term challenge from a breed of young officers who helped sweep her to power in 1986 but who now believe she was betrayed the idealism and aims of that revolution.

They are dismayed by the corruption around them and what they see as Aquino's weak style of leadership.

Although small in number, they feed off disillusionment with the president among the middle classes, one of Aquino's main bases of support, and enjoy widespread sympathy in the 160,000-strong armed forces.

"I have a strange feeling (this) latest coup may not necessarily be the last one," Teodoro Benigno, Aquino's former spokesman, said in a commentary in the Philippine Star newspaper on Monday.

"If the president lapses back into the same languid, rapid, flat-chested style of ruling the country there could be another coup by a...group that might get the okay of America. And this next coup could do her in."

Former President Ferdinand Marcos cut the military's constitutional moorings in 1972 when, nearing the end of his term, he proclaimed martial law.

For 14 years until Marcos was overthrown, the military enjoyed unprecedented power in towns and provinces, although its conservative generals still believed unwaveringly in civilian supremacy over the armed forces.

An elite pack of officers tested power in 1986 by launching the revolt that toppled Marcos. They believe the civilian leadership must now earn the loyalty of its army, or face the consequences.

In a land that had never known a coup d'etat, Aquino has faced six military revolts, each bloodier than the last.

Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan, a charismatic colonel sacked by Aquino after he almost toppled her in a mutiny in August 1987, said the latest revolt was intended to rid the country of a corrupt government.

"We have no plan or desire to run the government," Honasan said in a statement sent to media offices. "But we believe the military can be an effective instrument in helping install a competent collective leadership that will guarantee good government."

While Aquino herself has a clean image, she is coming under mounting attack from big business, the media and church for allegedly tolerating corruption around her and for failing to provide strong leadership needed to weed out incompetent officials.

"She has to impose discipline, make changes in the military leadership and in her cabinet," said a Manila businessman who asked not to be identified.

"Otherwise the threats from her army will continue."

"The military responds to commands. Probably it misses the master's voice."

Aquino, who pardoned some leaders of previous coup attempts while military courts meted out relatively light penalties, promised to exact retribution from the leaders of the latest mutiny.

"We shall hunt down and bring to justice the traitorous cowards who launched this attack," she said on Saturday.

Political scientist Carolina Hernandez said the coup plotters rode on legitimate grievances against the government, such as corruption and increasing prices of commodities.

"The plotters claim to have the nation's good in mind but their personal agenda is hidden," Hernandez said.

U.S. officials see dual gains for Bush

By Gene Gibbons
Reuters

VALLETTA — George Bush left the Mediterranean summit confident he can work with Mikhail Gorbachev and strengthened against critics who claim his policy towards the Kremlin lacks vision, U.S. officials have said.

"He reaffirmed his relationship with Gorbachev and laid out an agenda for dealing with him on arms control, economic affairs and regional issues," one administration official said shortly after the two-day superpower meeting concluded.

The American president himself said he could have asked for "a better ambience" in his eight hours of talks with the Soviet leader.

The positive outcome was emphasised even though Bush and Gorbachev had to improvise when stormy weather spoiled their plans to confer aboard U.S. and Soviet warships anchored 1,000 metres off Malta's coast.

"You get the feeling he (Gorbachev) really wants to work with us," Bush said in a post-summit interview.

U.S. officials, who asked not to be identified, said an array of proposals made by the president at the first of his two meetings with Gorbachev aboard the docked Soviet luxury liner Maxim Gorky showed that he was ready to act boldly to move beyond the cold war era.

Bush, faulted by critics like Senate Democratic leader George Mitchell for offering timid backing to Gorbachev's political and economic reform movement, said he was ready to begin negotiations on a comprehensive trade agreement with the Soviet Union.

U.S. officials said the ailing Soviet economy would be boosted when Washington grants Moscow most-favoured-nation trading status.

This was the prospect once the Soviet parliament finishes liberalising emigration laws, a step the

U.S. requires before it will lift trade restrictions.

Bush pledged to back observer status for Moscow in the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT), an essential step to enable the Soviet Union to join the global economy.

He also offered to take other steps to help Gorbachev overcome staggering economic problems besetting the Soviet Union.

On the arms control front, Bush gave new impetus to strategic arms negotiations that could help both him and Gorbachev politically.

He proposed that the United States and the Soviet Union work to complete a START treaty on long-range weapons in time for the 1990 U.S.-Soviet summit. Such a pact would cut the superpowers' strategic nuclear arsenals by half.

Dramatic upheaval in Eastern Europe — a topic that was expected to be the centrepiece of the summit — was discussed at length.

A cryptic news conference comment by Bush suggested that he and Gorbachev agreed on ways to ensure that the reform movement away from old-style Communism in Moscow's allies remains peaceful.

The summit gave them "a very good chance to discuss it (the situation in Eastern Europe) in considerably more detail than I think would be appropriate to discuss," with reporters, Bush said.

On Central America, which is expected to prove the most contentious summit issue with Gorbachev, Bush said:

"I can't say there are no differences between us but we have had a chance to talk about them... and I like to think they have been narrowed."

A U.S. official said of Bush: "He's been talking about his policy of moving 'beyond containment' for a year and now this meeting is a fruition of that. It puts meat on the bones that a lot of critics said was not there."

Deadline to disband contras nears

By Adrian Croft
Reuters

MANAGUA — The deadline set by Central American presidents for disbanding Nicaraguan contra rebels expires next week with the rebel army still intact and the guerrilla war raging more fiercely than it has for months.

Five Central American presidents, in a surprise show of unity, agreed last August on a plan to disband the 15,000-strong rebel force by December 5.

But the rebels have confounded predictions of their demise by refusing to lay down their arms and infiltrating thousands more fighters into Nicaragua from bases in Honduras.

Diplomats now say the contras are likely to be around at least until next February's Nicaraguan elections and perhaps beyond.

"The December 5 date always seemed difficult to meet and now it looks quite unrealistic," one Western diplomat said.

He said he would not bet on the contras being disbanded before the February 5 elections. "We may be a good way down the road but it's hard to feel

confident that it could be completed by then."

After months of relative calm, the contra war was boiled up again since President Daniel Ortega lifted a ceasefire on November 1 and ordered a new offensive against the rebels who had increased their attacks.

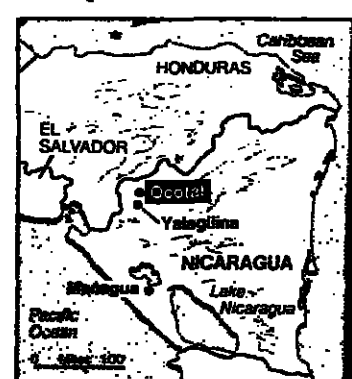
At least 100 people were killed in November, far more than in recent months, according to official figures.

Nicaraguan officials privately accept that the December 5 deadline will not be met and in talks with the contras in November proposed December 31 as a new target date.

They say the main reason for the delay is opposition from the United States, which wants to keep the rebels intact at least until next February to put pressure on the leftist Sandinista government to hold free elections.

The U.S. Congress cut military aid to the contras last year but has approved \$60 million in humanitarian aid until next February.

Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco said Washington held the key to disbanding the contras in its logistic



al support and financing.

"As long as the U.S. government doesn't use any of these instruments, the contra leadership is not going to want to negotiate," he told reporters.

The Sandinista government wants a rapid end to the debilitating eight-year war, which has killed 40,000 people and devastated the economy, and is seeking ways to put more pressure on its neighbours and the United States to disband the rebels.

But diplomats say it appears to have few options. Following the failure of the peace talks with the

contras in November, the government pinned its hopes on a new Central American presidential summit.

But a major offensive by leftist guerrillas in El Salvador has thrust the contra problem into the background.

Any hopes of a new agreement receded further when El Salvador's President Alfredo Cristiani suspended relations with Nicaragua last week, accusing it of supplying sophisticated anti-aircraft missiles to the guerrillas.

Cristiani said he would not attend a Central American summit in Nicaragua in December, as planned.

Even if the presidents do meet, diplomats say it is difficult to see what Nicaragua can do to achieve more leverage while Washington remains opposed to disbanding the contras.

The Honduran government has repeatedly said it will not disband contra fighters against their will. The Nicaraguan government has made clear it will keep up military pressure on the contras who have been short of weapons and ammunition since the United States cut military aid.

World's 'senior surviving guerrilla' lays down arms

By Denis D. Gray
The Associated Press

BANGKOK, Thailand — Chin Peng, one of the world's longest surviving and most secretive Communist guerrilla leaders, has laid down his arms after a half century of jungle warfare.

The insurgency he started 41 years ago with the cold-blooded killing of three British rubber planters in Malaysia has formally ended in a southern Thailand city known more for its sex trade than politics.

Now in his late 60s, Chin Peng signed an agreement Dec. 2 ending the armed struggle of the Communist Party of Malaysia, whose much-withered ranks of 1,200 weary jungle fighters are to return to civilian life.

The signing ceremony at Hat Yai, a bustling centre attracting thousands of male tourists and smuggled goods from nearby Malaysia, marked another failed Communist insurgency.

Chin Peng's own future appears uncertain. Some Malaysian officials have expressed

suspicion of his motives. In the past, the country has appeared unwilling to accept ex-guerrillas once officially known as CTS, or Communist terrorists, who sought power through the barrel of a gun.

A joint communique issued at the signing ceremony said the Communists would in "due course" be allowed to return to Malaysia and participate in political activities within the framework of the country's laws and constitution. Chin Peng did not reveal his own plans.

Dubbed "The world's senior surviving guerrilla" by one Western expert, Chin Peng belongs to a now all but vanished breed who fought to create a global Marxist-Leninist order following the chaos of World War II.

In that conflict, the young Chin Peng proved a courageous, behind-enemy-lines fighter against the Japanese, learning guerrilla tactics from his British comrades-at-arms in the Malayan jungles. He also had become a committed Communist.

"Unusual ability, an incisive brain, reliable, a frank man

(who) possessed marked courage, and commanded the natural respect of men without fuss or formality" was how one of the British officers, John Davis, described him.

He was awarded the order of the British empire after the war and, according to some accounts, took part in the victory parade in London. But not long after the war, Chin Peng was selected to head the Communist party as its secretary-general.

He had been born in 1920 or 1922 in Malaya's Perak state of Chinese parents who had immigrated to Malaya shortly before his birth. His father made a good living selling and repairing bicycles and sent his son to local English schools, where he excelled.

The Chinese were in many respects an underprivileged class in British-ruled Malaya, and for a number of young people among them Communism represented social justice and a short cut to power and status.

In 1948, the party decided to wage armed struggle. The open-

ing volleys were fired June 16 when guerrillas walked into two rubber plantations in northern Malaya and methodically executed three planters.

The country was to be plunged into 12 years of violence known as the Malayan emergency. It turned out to be one of the few successful efforts by a government to stamp out a Communist insurgency within its borders.

Later, in the Vietnam war, the U.S. government sought advice from some of the architects of the Malayan victory, but conditions were far different in Vietnam.

At the height of the emergency, some 70,000 British, Australian, New Zealand, Filipino, Gurkha and other British Commonwealth troops fought some 10,000 guerrillas. More than 10,000 fighters and civilians lost their lives between 1948 and 1960.

Although the casualties were relatively light, the jungle fighting was agonising and the Communist attacks against civilians vicious. In turn, tens of thousands of often innocent Chinese were uprooted as a result of the uni-

mately successful British strategy to separate the guerrillas from all sources of support.

Clearly losing, Chin Peng emerged from the jungle in 1953 to negotiate with Malayan officials at a schoolhouse near the Thai-Malay border.

Thakur Abdul Rahman, soon to become prime minister of an independent Malaysia, insisted on surrender and an amnesty. But Chin Peng wanted his party included in a coalition government and the talks ended in failure.

"The amnesty means surrender, surrender means humiliation. We will not accept surrender at any time," Chin Peng said. "If you demand our surrender, we would prefer to fight to the last man."

Davis, his wartime friend, was present and the two men shook hands before the guerrilla chief disappeared into the jungle. It was the last time Chin Peng was seen by the non-Communist world until his recent emergence in Thailand, which brokered the agreement signed Dec. 2.

Although the emergency was declared over in 1960, the CPM

staged its last major raids in the mid-1970s, when guerrillas blew up the national war memorial in Kuala Lumpur.

After that, the guerrillas' strength was sapped through joint Thai-Malaysian military operations and a Thai amnesty that led to mass surrenders in recent years.

Chin Peng reportedly spent most of his time in China, making periodic trips to the rugged Thai-Malaysian border where the CPM was largely concentrated. There also were reports of his death.

Chin Peng became a legendary figure, the ruthlessness of his movement mingling with the personal respect he had elicited from his enemies.

C.C. Too, the onetime Malaysian psychological warfare chief, described Chin Peng in a 1976 interview as having "a scholarly, monastic quality."

"When he talked and acted it was with dignity," said the counterinsurgency expert who once matched wits with the guerrilla. "If there is a Communist who can be called gentlemanly it was Chin Peng."



Rural workers silhouetted against snowy peaks in northern India. (Photo: Madanjeet Singh)

Photos that hold a place, a face, a motion in time

By Philip Neave

PARIS — It is hard to imagine a richer life than that of Madanjeet Singh. Formerly a member of India's diplomatic service, Singh, 65, has lived in Finland, Uganda, Burundi, Rwanda, Colombia, South Vietnam, Spain, Sweden, Laos, Italy, Greece and now France. He is also an accomplished artist, writer, photographer, art expert and collector. One thing that has not changed is Singh's love for his homeland, particularly for his native Punjab in northwest India. A book of photographs he took 40 years ago and which has just been published by Rizzoli (New York), illustrates Singh's deep understanding of his country. Titled "This My People," the book offers sensitive portraits of India's peasants and other manual labourers — people who toil for a lifetime to eke out just enough to survive, and people trapped by the horror of communal strife.

It took the former diplomat 40 years to muster the courage to publish his book in Europe, even though it had the prestige of a handwritten preface by India's first prime minister, Jawaharlal Nehru. "All that Europeans knew about India was its poverty," said Singh in a recent interview. In his elegant Paris apartment, explaining that he wanted to show first India's artistic and cultural wealth. To accomplish this goal he compiled 10 books on art, including a major work titled "Himalayan Art" in the World Art Series published by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation. Then Singh came across his old photographs and decided the time had come to publish them in a book where he also presents his own thoughts on his country and its people. "I am no longer ashamed of India's poverty in the same way as before. I used to get hurt, I am ashamed of poverty per se, but no longer of Indian poverty because of my nationalistic selfishness," he explained. Singh lived through the massacres that occurred when the Muslim nation of Pakistan was carved out of Hindu India in 1947, a terrifying time during which several hundred thousand people were killed and 12 million Muslim and Hindu refugees crossed the new Pakistani-Indian border, seeking safety either east or west. Today Singh looks back in sorrow at the violence, especially in the border province of Punjab which suffered greatly during partition because of extremists. Although most regions of India have now found peace, Singh points out that in a people of such diversity some are traditionally warring, for example the Sikhs and the Gujaratis, which leads to recurring violence. Himself a Sikh, Singh deplores on-going religious and communal strife. "India has so far been able to maintain its secular character and its democracy. I think it would be terribly sad if this secular character were to be destroyed by the fundamentalist forces."

The extremists are leading the Sikhs into an area that is damaging the community's interests. A handful of terrorists belonging to my own Sikh community are busy destroying the privileged position which their most enterprising compatriots have carved for themselves in independent India. Singh believes the situation looks less threatening since the death of former Pakistani President Zia Ul-Haq, who imposed Islamic law during his rule and the Sikh separatists. "The situation has improved with the coming of a more democratic government under Benazir Bhutto," he added. Singh is optimistic that the extremists will run out of steam. "The main purpose of this small group of terrorists was to create bad blood between the Hindus and the Sikhs, but unlike what happened between the Hindus and the Muslims at the time of partition, that has not come about. This is because more than half the Sikhs are intermarried with Hindus. You cannot divide families."

Looking to the upcoming elections in India, Singh points out the country has managed to maintain a democratic system since independence. Although the Gandhi family has ruled India for three generations, he says, the late Indira Gandhi, daughter of Jawaharlal Nehru, was once defeated in an election. Adds Singh, "For these elections, the opposition is so divided that there is no focal point around which it can unite. I think it is going to be very close."

"People are politically mature in India. A village — they form the political base of the country — will not be swayed by this or that scandal," he noted, referring to allegations that Bofors, a Swedish arms manufacturer, had given Indian government officials millions of dollars in bribes to obtain a contract for weapons. "What the peasant is concerned about is his livelihood and his stability."

One point in favour of Gandhi's ruling Congress Party is its recent motion to re-introduce a traditional system of local government known as the "Panchayati Raj." ("Rule of the Five"), in which five village elders are elected to represent the village and to sort out local problems. One goal is to break the dominance of the political power brokers and neutralise the corruption that pervades the administration, says Singh. But in fact, the power of India's giant bureaucracy is legendary, and Singh fears that it might be impossible to curb it. "There is too much vested interest, the power of the civil servants continues to grow, and corruption has increased. In the old days, people felt guilty about taking bribes; now that shame has disappeared, and it has become a way of life."

From the economic point of view India has progressed "phenomenally," Singh explains, but progress is undermined by one major threat: population growth. "In India, a child is born every 1.2 seconds. Every 24 hours, there are 70,000 new mouths to feed. Every year, more than one Australia (18 million people) is added to our country. This is India's disaster. Despite rapid economic progress, poverty has increased because you must divide the bowl of rice between more and more people." There is no way that India can provide the one million new schools that are needed every year, he adds. As in many developing countries, the issue of population control is a sensitive one, and Singh sees no obvious answer, although

he believes that overpopulation around the world is rapidly leading to a global environmental disaster. On the positive side, the country's rapid industrialisation has created a large and growing urban middle class that is beginning to change the face of Indian society. "The growth of the middle class is always a sign of progress," Singh said. "At the same time, it is always a danger. The entire fascist movement in Italy and Germany (in the 1930s) was drawn from the middle class, which is easily swayed by slogans. A peasant has his feet on the ground, but the middle class person doesn't know where he stands, he has lost his roots, so he's floating somewhere in between."

"The ideals upon which the Indian State was founded, such as secularism, have to be reinforced in a very conscientious manner," he noted. In a country where almost every religion is represented, it becomes supremely important to build on common ground. For Singh and his generation, tragic memories are still vivid. "In 'This My People' it was not easy to recreate in words the intensity of the emotional revulsion I felt at that time against communal violence," he said. His marriage to a Muslim woman he met in Sweden — the daughter of an Indonesian ambassador — was in part a



A peasant girl already resigned to a life of hardship.

"practical way of proving the revulsion I felt for communalism." It was difficult for his family to accept the marriage, which eventually dissolved after 23 years.

Explains Singh: "Naturally I was devastated when I separated from my wife. Yet I was glad it was caused by cultural disparity and absolutely not because of any religious differences. That would have shattered my ideals. Curiously, these differences were not so much between the cultures of Indonesia and India as between my masochistic mentality derived from the male-oriented society in the Punjab... and the

Hindu matrilineal attitude of her Indonesian culture, which was largely derived from the southern regions of India."

Singh's knowledge of many different societies, coupled with relentless intellectual and creative activity, seems to have given him a rare understanding of mankind and a form of serenity matched by the environment he has created for himself in his 10th-floor apartment overlooking the Seine River: there art treasures and the natural beauty of the scenery bring peace and a feeling of space — *World News Link*.

An ecological crisis coming to the fore

EVEN BEFORE the current quickening in the transformation of the international political scene, concern over the global environment had already secured a high place on the world's agenda.

But as other preoccupations, including the threat of a nuclear holocaust, recede, the wellbeing of our planet is being thrust even more to the forefront. This is being highlighted at gatherings as diverse as the United Nations' General Assembly and a conference of the world's small island states.

Fifteen of these countries were meeting at the most appropriate of venues, the Indian Ocean archipelago republic of the Maldives. These islands are among the most threatened by some of the feared consequences of global warming — rising sea levels and more powerful hurricanes and typhoons.

The aim of the conference was not only to underline this danger, but also to stress to the international community that the affected nations will need its help to survive.

Meanwhile, at the U.N. General Assembly, Britain's Prime Minister devoted the whole of her address to the "insidious danger" of the impending

ecological crisis. It was, Mrs. Thatcher said, as menacing in its way as those conventional, political perils with which the world had contended down the centuries.

In a speech which was to prove one of the most well-received of the current session, the prime minister outlined the part that Britain intends to play in the international effort to halt the damage being done to the Earth, its oceans and atmosphere.

She said that Britain had agreed to co-ordinate the work of the inter-governmental panel on climatic change, an assessment of which would be made available before the second world climate conference next year.

But this was not enough. The international community had to improve its ability to predict climatic change, Mrs. Thatcher said, and Britain had therefore decided to establish a centre for this purpose. This facility, with its advanced computers and other equipment, would be open to all experts, especially those from the developing countries.

The Prime Minister pointed out that mankind was now changing the global environment in damaging and dangerous ways. The Earth's land surface was being degraded, its waters polluted and "greenhouse" gases

were being added to the air at an unprecedented rate.

"We are seeing a vast increase in the amount of carbon dioxide reaching the atmosphere, she said. The annual increase was three billion tonnes — and half the carbon emitted since 18th century Europe's industrial revolution was still in the atmosphere.

"At the same time we are seeing the destruction on a vast scale of tropical forests which are uniquely able to remove carbon dioxide from the air."

But at the present rate of clearance 65 per cent of these forests would have disappeared by the turn of the century. Moreover, man-made gases were making inroads into the protective ozone layer, although this danger had been recognised and steps were being taken with the aim of eventually halting these emissions.

However, in Mrs. Thatcher's view, the main threat to the environment was the rate of population growth.

More and more people meant more and more land being cultivated more intensively; more forests cut down and burned; more mountainsides laid bare and more fossil fuels burned, as well as more pollutions of rivers and seas — *Lions features*.

The Original.

In 1962 Rado introduced the world's first scratchproof watch. Beauty that will never lose its lustre. Because the case-top is made of tungsten or titanium carbide. And the scratchproof sapphire crystal is almost as hard as real diamond. That's why the name Rado is synonymous with leadership in scratchproof watch-making technology. Would you want to settle for less?

RADO
DiaStar



Mod. dep. Swiss Made available in ladies and men's size.

For all your:
Packing,
Air Freight Forwarding,
Customs Clearance,
Door-to-door Service,
Ticketing and
Reservation needs,
please call:
AMIN KAWAR & SONS
Abdel Hamid Sharaf Street
Shmeisani
P.O. Box 781h
Amman, Jordan
Tel. 604676, 604696

CROWN
INT'L EST.
packing, shipping,
forwarding, storing,
clearing, door-to-door
service
Agents all over the world
Tel: 604696, Fax: 604692
Tlx: 22205 BESSACO JO
P.O. Box 82467
AMMAN JORDAN

THE NAME
YOU TRUST
TOP QUALITY
HOUSEHOLD
APPLIANCES
Electrolux
SHMAISANI AMMAN
TEL 604671

STUDIO HAIG
Professional Quality in
1 Hour Service
Develop your colour film at
our shop and get:-
* **JUMBO photo**
size 30% larger
* **Free enlarge-**
ment 20 x 30 cm
Shmeisani - Opp. Grindlays
Bank, Phone: 604042
Swefeb tel: 823891

Slide film
Processing by
Konica
Same Day Service
for all E6 films at
Salbhashian
Trading Co.
Wadi Saqra str.
Next to Petra Bank
Headquarters
Tel : 633418

CAMERA CLINIC
QUALITY REPAIR SERVICE
FOR ALL CAMERA MAKES
YASHICA
A Spark
of Hi-Tech
H. BERBERIAN & SON,
DOWNTOWN - AMMAN
OPPOSITE ARAB BANK
TEL : 622420

RESTAURANT CHINA
The first & best
Chinese Restaurant
in Jordan
1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near
Ahiyyah Girls School
Take away is available
Open daily 12:00-3:30
p.m.
6:30-Midnight
Tel. 639968

慕堂餐廳
MANDARIN
Chinese Restaurant
The only typical Chinese
cuisine in Amman.
Chinese Flaming pot is available
Take away available
Open daily 12:00 - 15:30
18:00 - 23:30
Wadi Saqra Road - near Traffic
Bridge
Amman, Jordan
Tel: 661922

CHEN'S
CHINESE
RESTAURANT
Mecca Street, Yarmouk
Engineers' Housing
Estate, near Kilo
Supermarket
Mongolian Barbeque for
Lunch Friday only
Tel: 818214
Come and taste our
specialities
Open daily 12:00 - 3:30
p.m.
6:30 - Midnight

CHINESE
RESTAURANT
TAIWAN TOURISMO
Authentic Chinese Food
Korean Bar-B-Q
Charcoal Flaming Pot
Take-away service
Open daily Noon - 3:30 p.m.
& 6:30 p.m. - midnight
Location: Near 3rd Circle
opposite Akliah Hospital
Tel: 641093

مطعم قصر الصين
CHINA PALACE RESTAURANT
We proudly serve:
Delicious Chinese and Lebanese
cuisine cooked to your liking.
From 12 noon to Midnight
All served in the super attractive
Chinese decoration complemented by
our fine Western band.
Also, enjoy a cocktail or glass of wine at
a discount price during happy hours
4-7 daily.
Tel: 688232 (Amman), 688233 (Petra)
opposite Commemorative Hotel

Saudi
Real Estate
RENTAL 687821

SALES 687822
CALL SOHA

Kashmiri
Restaurant
FIRST CLASS INDIAN
RESTAURANT
Special Executive Lunches
Take away service
available
Open Daily 12:30-3:30 pm
7:30-11:30 pm
After the Philadelphia Hotel
Towards 3rd Circle
Tel: 659519 659520

MEXICAN
FOOD

Between
1st & 2nd
Circle
Jabal Amman
Tel: 654205
Open For
LUNCH & DINNER

Turkish Meze and
Delicious Dishes

Open for
Lunch &
Dinner
Opp. The Housing Bank & Plaza Hotel
Tel. 67225, home delivery available

TABBOUS BROTHERS

PHILIPS
HOTPOINT
Caloric
MECCA ST. 823441
Service & Parts 823442

AL SABELL
HOTEL FLATS
Tel. 630571, P.O. Box 2206
Conveniently located behind the
Turkish Embassy in Jabal
Amman, 2nd Circle, with easy
access to commercial centres
and tourist sites.
Ideal for businessmen and
visitors alike.
Comfortably furnished suites
with self-catering facilities, T.V.
and serviced daily.

For the best
for your
MONEY...
ADVERTISE
in the
Jordan Times

Petra Bank resumes Visa card operations

AMMAN (J.T.) — Petra Bank still owes Visa International, the U.S.-based credit card company, more than \$4 million, but began repayments after Visa agreed to resume honouring Petra-issued cards, the bank said Tuesday.

Petra Bank's government-appointed General Manager Basam Atari told Reuters the bank would repay \$50,000 each working day to cover the sum of \$1.7 million.

Atari said a further \$3.8 million owed to Visa would be "considered for rescheduling after Arthur Andersen and Company's report on the accounts of the bank is ready for circulation in early 1990."

The repayments began Nov. 27 when Visa resumed its service for the reduced number of Petra Bank clients who still hold Visa International or Visa Golden cards, he said.

Atari said Petra Bank had settled substantial amounts owed to other banks in Jordan and abroad which had used Petra as processing and authorisation agent for their Visa cards.

Petra Bank's new management, appointed after a government takeover on Aug. 3, inherited obligations of about \$8 million related to the Visa card service, he said.

Visa International suspended dealings with Petra Bank in late August because of missed payments.

Jordanian officials have accused former Petra Bank head Ahmad Chalabi of large-scale fraud and embezzlement. Chalabi fled the country in August.

Atari said Petra Bank had cancelled more than 6,000 of the original 8,850 Visa International and Visa Golden cards held by its clients and would strictly control

the use of valid cards.

He said Petra Bank had sent a circular to Visa cardholders calling on them to "exercise extreme caution and judgment" to avoid violating central bank foreign currency controls.

Technically speaking, Atari emphasised in a press release, all cards are now under full control and as such the card holder cannot draw at any time any amount which exceeds the credit balance available in the card holder's account maintained with the bank noting that the maximum ceiling limit was fixed at JD 2,000 per month to the International card holder, taking into consideration the foreign exchange control regulations issued by the Central Bank of Jordan in this respect.

The press release noted that the agreement with Visa came as a result of fruitful negotiations combined with the personal support of Dr. Mohammad Said Nabulsi, governor of the Central Bank of Jordan.

Oman bank warns against currency speculation

DUBAI (R) — Oman's central bank has advised banks in the sultanate to stop unwarranted speculative dealing in foreign exchange futures, the central bank president said.

"Banks have been responding to requests from clients to take positions. This had gone to such an extent that it had become unwarranted," bank president Abdul Wahab Khayata said in a telephone interview Tuesday.

The president said he wanted to stress that the bank continued to encourage currency transactions for all trade-related, or any other normal bank business of income, and expenditure flows, at the discretion of the banks.

"The bank's policy is not to interfere," he said. But the bank had called in bank managers to a lengthy meeting Monday because it wanted to protect the interests of depositors, which it felt were being threatened by dealing for speculative profits on the currency futures markets.

"This includes currency op-

tions, forwards, and futures proper," he said.

Commercial bankers at the bigger Oman banks said they agreed that some currency dealing had got out of hand.

"Some banks had not even been asking their customers for margins," said one banker, referring to the proportion of the value of the deal that customers wishing to trade on any futures market are usually obliged to put up as a security.

Bankers said some severe losses over the past month due to recent heavy swings in the international foreign exchange markets seemed to have prompted the bank's warning.

"The bank has been positive.

What it is saying is that for the sake of say 100,000 riyals profit on speculative transactions, you are putting many times that amount of money at risk," said another local banker.

Oman banks are tiny compared with the big players in the international currency markets, making them more exposed.

"We are not Japanese, or American banks," said one bank manager. To accommodate the desire of operators to speculate, the central bank said it will issue licences for firm specifically geared to such business, capitalised at 1.6 million riyals (\$4.1 million) but banks will not be allowed more than five per cent of any individual firm.

Israeli kibbutzes agree to austerity

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel's financially strapped collective farm movement agreed to an austerity programme including meatless meals and fewer trips abroad under a government bailout of its 7.2 billion shekel (\$3.6 billion) debt, a spokesman said Monday.

Shimon Helman, spokesman for the United Kibbutz Movement, said the collective farms also agreed to increase investment in light industry.

"It's part of a trend," Helman said. "We already produce far more than the agricultural needs, so we are looking for profitable exports, like winter fruit and flowers to Western Europe and light industry."

Kibbutzes were founded at the turn of the century by European immigrants. But the movement's debts and aging population already have forced kibbutzes to invest in light industry, which now accounts for 50 per cent of their profits.

Helman said the movement also agreed to sell 40 million shekels (\$20 million) in assets, including property in Tel Aviv, and ordered member farms to serve two meatless meals a week as part of a seven per cent cutback in living expenses.

Under the agreement, scheduled to be signed later this week, the government will write off 1.6 billion shekels (\$835 million) in debts.

It will offer tax breaks to banks to give the collective farms 25-year loans at 4.5 per cent interest to cover the remainder of the total debt of 7.2 billion shekels (\$3.6 billion).

The plan was approved by the United Kibbutz Movement Sunday night. The smaller Kibbutz Arzi Movement accepted the programme three weeks ago.

"There was a tremendous amount of disagreement over whether to accept the government offer," Helman said. "It does not address our future, the building of new kibbutzes, the absorption of new immigrants or our pension plan."

Helman said many kibbutz members blamed the government for creating the unfavourable exchange rates and high interest rates that devastated kibbutz exports and helped cause the huge debt.

Newspaper reports said Finance Minister Shimon Peres, head of the centre-left Labour Party, put pressure on the movement to accept the offer. The movement's 164 collective farms are affiliated with Labour, while the Kibbutz Arzi Movement's 84 collective farms are linked to the socialist Mafam Party. Together the two groups have 110,000 members.

Some members said they voted for the plan, which passed by a 300-32 vote, out of fear kibbutzes could fall under control of the right-wing Likud bloc in the future. Likud has accused kibbutzes of financial mismanagement and threatened to cut off aid.

But Helman said he believed Likud would agree to a bail-out loan because of the food raised by the kibbutzes and their locations.

Major admits errors

LONDON (AP) — Chancellor of the Exchequer John Major Monday admitted the government made a series of misjudgements in economic policy, which fuelled inflation.

Speaking before a House of Commons committee on the autumn budget statement, Major said the government allowed interest rates to fall too much after the October 1987 stock market crash and gave too much encouragement to Britain's housing boom.

"In retrospect we can see that demand was growing faster than we then thought in 1987 and 1988," the chancellor said. "I

think those are the factors that have led to this bubble of demand that underpins the present inflation that concerns us."

Major in October replaced Nigel Lawson, who resigned abruptly as chancellor saying he could not retain as long as Sir Alan Walters continued as Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's economic adviser. Lawson and Walters had had public disagreements about currency policy.

The government has pushed up interest rates to an eight-year high of 15 per cent to fight the resurgent inflation, which currently is running at an annual rate of 7.3 per cent.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

CAEU meeting opens today

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman-based Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) will Wednesday open a meeting of Arab ministers of economy, trade and finance to discuss the council's operations and future plans. CAEU's Secretary-General Hassan Ibrahim said in a statement that the council's annual report on moves to bolster integration between the Arab states and to remove trade barriers will be on the agenda of the two-day meetings. Ibrahim said that the report outlines the current economic situation in the Israeli held Arab territories and recommendations designed to bolster the economy of the Palestinian people facing Israel's repression in the occupied lands. He said that the CAEU's 1990 fiscal budget will also be reviewed and endorsed.

Jordan, Kuwait discuss transportation

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Kuwait opened talks here Tuesday to discuss an agreement on land transport between them in a bid to boost trade. Dr. Mohammad Simadi, secretary-general of the Ministry of Transport, and Mr. Mohammad Sager, deputy undersecretary of the Ministry of Communication in Kuwait, are leading teams from their countries to the talks. According to Ministry of Transport officials, the two sides are discussing lorry transport between Kuwait and Jordan as well as passage for refrigerator trucks and other vehicles carrying Jordanian agricultural products for sale in Kuwait. The two sides will also discuss the formation of a joint committee to supervise the implementation of such agreement which is still to be signed by the two countries.

Farm exports earn Jordan JD 8.1m

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan last month exported 43,300 tonnes of vegetables and fruits to different countries, earning the Kingdom JD 8.1 million, according to a statement by the Agricultural Marketing Organisation (AMO). The statement said that most of the exports went to the countries in the Gulf area, with Saudi Arabia importing the lion's share of the national products. According to the statement, the exports included tomatoes, mandarins, cucumbers and lemons among other products. The statement noted that last month's exports registered an increase by 34.2 per cent over quantities sold in the same month of last year.

Instability surfaces for thrifts in U.S.

WASHINGTON (R) — M. Danny Wall, the official in charge of regulating the U.S. savings and loan industry, resigned Monday under fire for delaying the closure of a California institution whose bailout is likely to cost American taxpayers a record \$2.5 billion.

Wall, director of the Office of Thrift Supervision, formerly the Federal Home Loan Bank Board, said he was stepping down to end turmoil at the agency that threatened to interfere with the recovery of the ailing savings and loan industry.

Savings and loan institutions, known as thrifts, provide about half of the new home loans in the U.S. and own assets worth \$1.3 trillion. But a combination of factors, including deregulation in the early 1980s that let thrift managers to engage in riskier areas such as commercial development and many instances of fraud, caused many savings and loans to fail.

Earlier this year, Congress approved \$159 billion to bail out the industry. Wall, the chief regulator of the thrift industry for two of its most difficult years, announced his decision at a news conference and released a copy of his resignation letter to President George Bush.

Wall, who expects to stay on for a limited period to allow for a orderly transition, came into office at the height of the savings-and-loan crisis in July 1987. Critics say he then delayed action on recommendations from California examiners that Lincoln Savings be closed because of reckless management.

The cost of the failed thrift's bailout has since doubled and is expected to cost taxpayers \$2.5 billion. "Having failed to secure my departure legislatively, Mr. Gonzalez resorted to corruption of the truth and abandonment of our historical devotion to fair play and due process in his effort to remove me from office," Wall said in his letter.

He denied again that either political influence or Keating influenced his decision on when to close the troubled thrift.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Justice Department said Monday it is probing whether a special prosecutor should investigate alleged criminal wrongdoing by Samuel Pierce, who headed the troubled department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Iran loosens foreign exchange policies

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Iran has announced fresh measures to bring its unofficial foreign exchange market under control, saying it was easing currency regulations for importers and travellers.

Open market dealers immediately suspended all trading and one London-based Iranian dealer said many could face heavy losses if, as expected, the rial rose against major currencies.

Iran's state-owned banks began selling dollars to many importers on Oct. 8 at a new "competitive rate" to undercut open market dealers who thrived during the past decade of revolution and war against Iraq.

Central bank governor Mohammad Hossein Adeli announced the new measures, including the sale of \$300 once a year to any person travelling abroad, on Tehran radio.

"We intend to expand our plan to cover all the legitimate demand on the unofficial foreign exchange market," Adeli said. "Only illegitimate customers will then remain on the unofficial market and they will be treated

according to the law." President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani has pinpointed the elimination of a multiple-rate foreign exchange system as a main goal of his economic reform programme.

Critics say the competitive rate, offered to an increasing number of businessmen, is too high, making Iranian-made goods too expensive to compete against foreign products.

The competitive rate for the dollar, set daily by the central bank, has been 975 riyals since Oct. 24, down from 1,000 riyals during the first three weeks of the plan.

The official rate, relevant only to state purchases of basic items, is about 72 riyals per dollar.

Currency dealer Ali Pakpour told Reuters by telephone from London that Monday's announcement followed a steady rise in the open market rate for the dollar.

"Many money-changers may go bankrupt. It's like when Iran accepted to end the war against Iraq," he said.

Several speculators committed suicide after suffering crushing

losses when the rial more than doubled in value against the dollar immediately after Iran said in July 1988 it was ready for a ceasefire with Iraq.

Pakpour said the dollar reached 1,150 riyals Saturday from 1,060 a week ago, largely through manipulation of supply on the open market by one or two major players linked with government organisations.

Dealers had stopped trading, waiting to see the impact of the new regulations, he added.

Iran stopped selling foreign currency to travellers in 1985 in cuts forced by a declining oil revenue.

About 1.2 million Iranians travel abroad each year, according to Iranian press reports.

The government, wary of money-changers wrecking its reform measures, treats numerical details of the foreign currency plan as secrets.

Asked how much foreign exchange the central bank had set aside for the plan, Adeli said only that it had carefully estimated the demand and had sufficient funds to meet it.

The measures he announced included:

— State banks will charge importers the rate at the day goods arrive in Iran if it is lower than the day they opened credit. This responds to criticism by businessmen that the downward trend of the competitive rate meant it paid for them to import later rather than sooner.

— State banks will also buy foreign exchange from Iranians. He gave no buying rates.

— Some patients travelling abroad for medical treatment and some students will be able to buy limited amounts of foreign exchange at the competitive rate.

Foreign exchange will be sold at three more commercial state-owned banks — Meli, Melat and Sepah — in addition to Bank Tejarat and Bank Saderat.

Rafsanjani highlights plan

Meanwhile, Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani said his country will push non-oil exports, attract private investment and revive idle industries in a bid to resuscitate the economy, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported Tuesday.

The agency quoted Rafsanjani as saying a five-year economic plan launched last March was not ambitious, but realistic.

The plan is to be debated in the Iranian parliament, or Majlis, in the near future, the agency reported.

It said Rafsanjani's comments came in a meeting Monday with his 22-member cabinet and a number of Majlis deputies.

Rafsanjani said his plan is based on the assumption that current oil prices of around \$18 a barrel will remain constant or go higher.

He said that potential non-oil resources could be boosted even if oil prices fell.

Iran is dependent on oil for more than 90 per cent of its earnings.

Rafsanjani said that attracting private investment was an essential part of his economic plan, IRNA reported.

It quoted him as saying that the recently revived stock exchange in Tehran would channel "dead" capital towards production.

Rafsanjani added that about 5,000 billion riyals (\$50 billion), or eight times the country's annual budget, was locked up in unfinished projects, IRNA reported.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Dec 5, 1989

	Buy	Sell	French franc	105.4	105.5
Japanese yen (for 100)	447.0	451.5	Dutch guilder	319.1	322.2
Swedish crown	100.7	101.7	Italian lira (for 100)	48.9	49.4
Belgian franc (for 100)	172.0	173.7			

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One Sterling	1.5637/47	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.1630/40	Canadian dollar
	1.7848/55	Deutschemark
	2.0125/32	Dutch guilders
	1.6048/58	Swiss francs
	37.47/50	Belgian francs
	6.0925/75	French francs
	1314/1315	Italian lire
	143.70/80	Japanese yen
	6.3800/50	Swedish crowns
	6.8200/50	Norwegian crowns
	6.9225/75	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	401.80/402.30	U.S. dollars

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — An overnight slump in the price of gold pushed Australian share prices lower by the close. The All Ordinaries Index fell 9.3 to 1637.1.

TOKYO — Tokyo stocks posted record highs in brisk trade as investors bought broadly and rotated through domestic demand-linked stocks. The Nikkei soared another 190.30 to a record close of 37,494.17.

HONG KONG — Prices ended little changed. "Nothing went on today, it was so quiet," one broker said. The Hang Seng Index closed at 2,764.44, down 3.02 points.

SINGAPORE — Equities were further boosted on foreign and institutional buying. The Straits Times Index surged to close at 1,431.39, just below a post 1987 crash high of 1,431.85 set on Oct. 12 this year.

BOMBAY — Share prices kept rising on investor and institutional buying as the market awaited newly-elected Indian Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh to announce his cabinet.

FRANKFURT — Profit-taking pushed West German shares lower, but prices recovered as orders began to flow in. The Dax Index closed 7.7 down at 1,626.61.

ZURICH — Swiss shares closed easier in quiet trading as higher short-term interest rates and a weak Swiss franc weighed on the market. The All-Share Index fell 6.6 points to 1,144.

PARIS — French shares ended higher after a volatile session, pulled up by Wall Street's stronger opening. The CAC-40 Index ended 0.17 up at 1,939.26.

LONDON — Speculative gains in the property and building material sectors boosted the market, lifting the FTSE 20.1 to a session high of 2,320.16 at 1615 GMT.

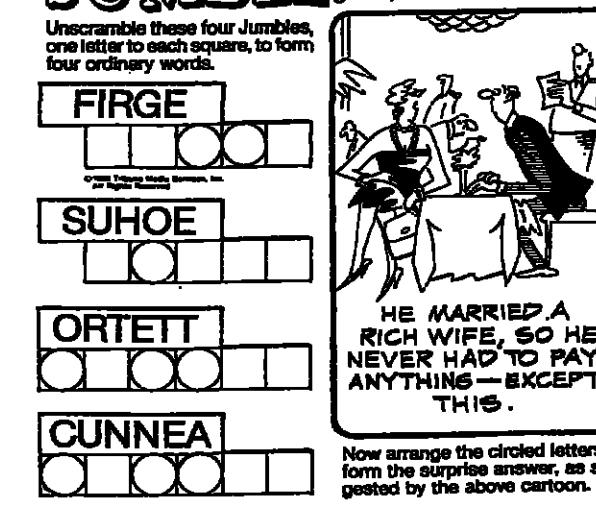
NEW YORK — Gains in blue chip issues supported a mild overall market gain, but trading was slow as traders awaited jobs data. IBM stock rose after it announced lay-offs. The Dow rose seven points to 2760.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



Real estate is very valuable!
Let's sell a pair of dirt for
\$25 and go out to a movie!

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

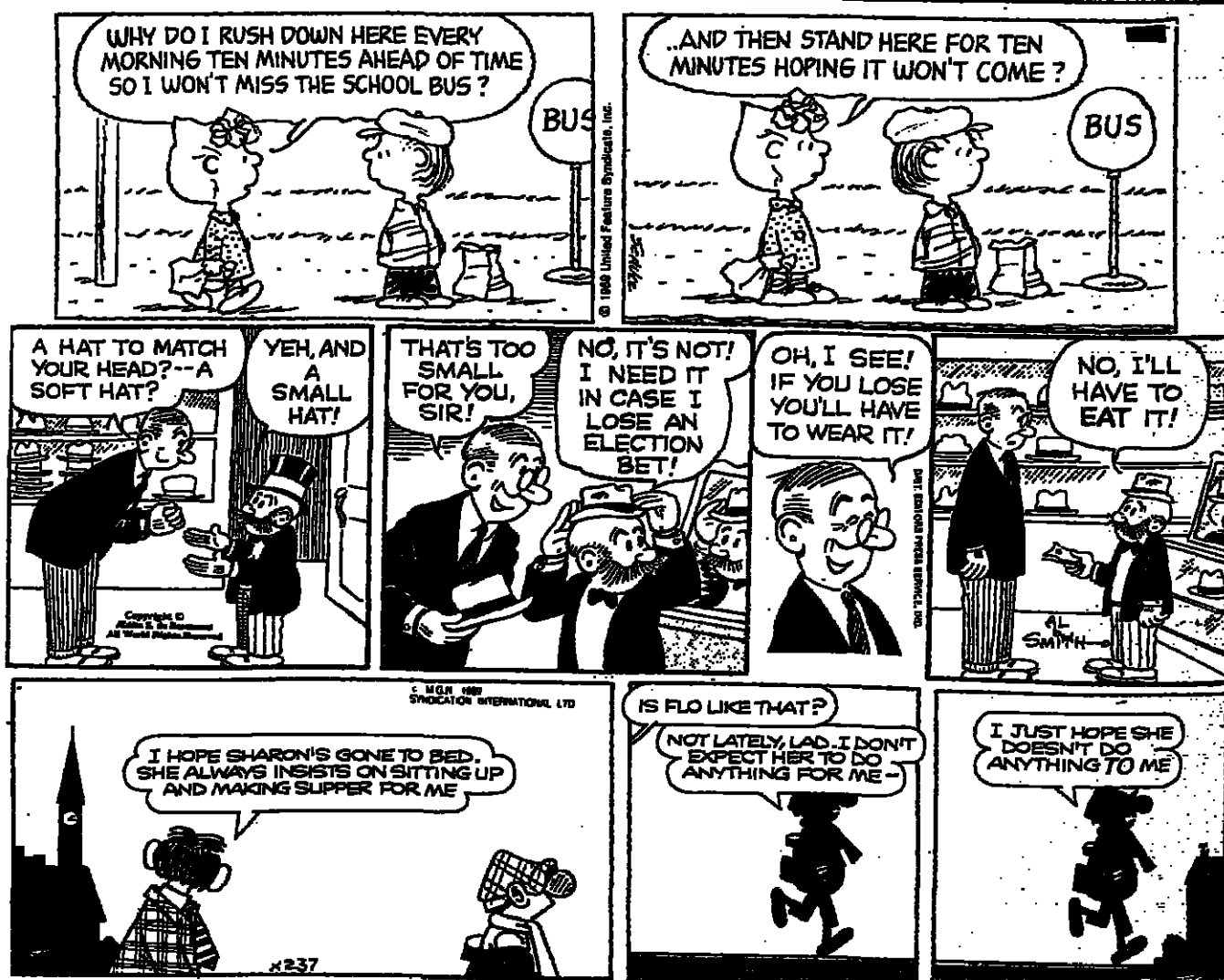


Print answer here: _____
(Answers tomorrow)
Yesterday's Jumble: FORAY SYLPH UNLOAD LARYNX
Answer: If you become addicted to wrestling, it might do this—GET A HOLD ON YOU!

Peanuts

Mutt'n' Jeff

Andy Capp



ATP-ITF war heats up

By Sandy Harwitt
Reuters

NEW YORK — The ATP-ITF war to stage the most prestigious tennis tournament in the world took a new twist on Monday when two possible rival tournaments surfaced to succeed the grand prix Masters which ended on Sunday.

Jon Tiriac said after the Masters final that he planned to stage a \$10-million tournament in West Germany next December, while Masters tournament director Gene Scott said he was working on plans for a United States versus Europe three-man team contest at about the same time.

Tiriac's event would compete with the \$6 million grand slam cup devised by the International Tennis Federation in an apparent attempt to upstage a \$4 million

contest scheduled by the Association of Tennis Professionals.

All three would take place in West Germany, with Tiriac's directly competing with the ITF's grand slam cup.

The ITF tournament has come under criticism from most top players who charge that it is an attempt to undermine the ATP's player-run tour which will begin next year, replacing the grand prix circuit run by the men's tennis council.

U.S. Open and Wimbledon champion Boris Becker of West Germany, who lost to Sweden's Stefan Edberg in Sunday's final, has said he would not play in the grand slam cup. Only world number one Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia has said he would play in the event which offers a \$2 million first prize.

Tiriac, a former Romanian Davis cup player, has one major ace in his hand — he is the manager of Becker who can guarantee a box office sellout in West Germany.

His event would allocate \$4 million in prize money with the other \$6 million going into a player pension fund and the development of junior tennis in West Germany.

Scott, Masters tournament director for the past five years, said his team competition would take place in New York from December 7 to 9, in the ATP's offseason.

He said that the player, including Lendl and spokesmen for Becker and John McEnroe, had expressed support for his team

concept. He did not mention the prize money.

"Whether or not a \$10-million event is possible, that's my question," Jay Beck, the ATP's director of communications, said of the Tiriac idea.

"Having Becker and having some players that are dissatisfied with the approach that the ITF are taking certainly does two things: It gives him (Tiriac) credibility and also hurts the slams even more."

"It's an alternative to their event (the grand slam cup), just as they were trying to create an alternative to ours."

Bill Babcock, the ITF's tournament administrator, had no comment on Tiriac's proposal.

Odds stacked against Napoli reaching last 8

By Neil Oughton
Reuters

LONDON — Doubts about the fitness of Diego Maradona and other key players have left the odds stacked heavily against holders Napoli surviving their visit to Werder Bremen on Wednesday and reaching the UEFA Cup quarter-finals.

Napoli trail Werder 3-2 from the first leg and, despite moving four points clear at the top of the Italian league with a 3-1 win over Atalanta on Sunday, trainer Alberto Bigon believes his side has only an outside chance of qualifying.

Maradona, nursing a back strain, played only the last 10 minutes against Atalanta and remains far from his best. So, too, does Brazilian striker Careca, while his compatriot Alessandro miss the game after being carried off in the first leg.

"We have to play an attacking game but with intelligence," Bigon said. "We mustn't leave ourselves exposed because Werder are so dangerous on the counter-attack."

Libero Alessandro Renica is expected to return from injury as Napoli attempt to make amends for their first defeat of the season. But Bigon said on Monday: "Until yesterday I gave myself a 15 per cent chance of qualifying. After our convincing win against Atalanta, I'm adding another five per cent considering how much morale has improved."

Napoli are one of three Italian clubs chasing places in the last eight of the competition with Juventus taking a 2-1 lead to East Germany's Karl-Marx-Stadt and Fiorentina defending a 1-0 advantage in the Soviet Union against

Dynamo Kiev. But the West Germans could be represented by four sides, although two of their teams face contrasting return legs — Cologne needing to overturn a 2-0 deficit at home against Red Star Belgrade while Hamburg defend a slender 1-0 advantage in Portugal against Porto.

Cologne trainer Christoph Daum has promised to commit six men to attack against the Yugoslavs. "The cards are clearly on the table. We will risk everything," he said, adding that central strikers Falko Goetz and Uwe Rahn would be supported at every opportunity by wingers Ralf Sturm and Frank Ordenewitz and midfielders Pierre Littbarski and Thomas Haessler.

Cologne's task may be helped by the absence of Red Star's regular goalkeeper Stjepan Stojanovic. A 19-year-old Zoran Mijovic will deputise — and top Yugoslav scorer Darko Pancev.

MANY VILLAS AND APARTMENTS FOR RENT & SALE

Furnished or Unfurnished
In Shmeisani, Sweifiah, Aboudin and many other locations.

For more information please call
Wael Real Estate
Tel: 685342, 682097

THE Daily Crossword

by Samuel K. Flegner

ACROSS	DOWN
1. Dumbfounded	1. Double agent
2. Measuring device	2. Porter
3. Hoodlum	3. Sui generis
4. Intensity	4. Sui generis
5. Distribute	5. Sui generis
6. Top-notch	6. Sui generis
7. Specific time period	7. Sui generis
8. A Gorbachev	8. Sui generis
9. — and switch	9. Sui generis
10. Purpose	10. Sui generis
11. Cuban patriot	11. Sui generis
12. Couple	12. Sui generis
13. Quince e.g.	13. Sui generis
14. Make tough	14. Sui generis
15. Hockey player	15. Sui generis
16. — to the wise	16. Sui generis
17. Church section	17. Sui generis
18. Upstart	18. Sui generis
19. — de quibus	19. Sui generis
20. Far from 7D	20. Sui generis
21. Sixth sense	21. Sui generis
22. POPE word	22. Sui generis
23. Charity	23. Sui generis
24. Uniform color	24. Sui generis
25. Evergreen club	25. Sui generis
26. Redeemer	26. Sui generis
27. Stuff	27. Sui generis
28. At this time	28. Sui generis
29. Type size	29. Sui generis
30. Hans Brinker's prize	30. Sui generis
31. Catfish	31. Sui generis
32. La Scala offering	32. Sui generis
33. Melody	33. Sui generis
34. After class and play	34. Sui generis
35. Affected slightly	35. Sui generis
36. Stack of hay	36. Sui generis
37. Slippery	37. Sui generis
38. Horatio —	38. Sui generis
39. Think tank output	39. Sui generis
40. Problem	40. Sui generis
41. Ala. city	41. Sui generis
42. Versa feature	42. Sui generis
43. And not	43. Sui generis
44. Prospect	44. Sui generis
45. Farm tool	45. Sui generis
46. Hindu garment	46. Sui generis
47. Sch. gp.	47. Sui generis
48. Disencomber	48. Sui generis
49. Cube	49. Sui generis
50. Stuff	50. Sui generis
51. See 48D	51. Sui generis

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS: 1. Double agent, 2. Porter, 3. Sui generis, 4. Sui generis, 5. Sui generis, 6. Sui generis, 7. Sui generis, 8. Sui generis, 9. Sui generis, 10. Sui generis, 11. Sui generis, 12. Sui generis, 13. Sui generis, 14. Sui generis, 15. Sui generis, 16. Sui generis, 17. Sui generis, 18. Sui generis, 19. Sui generis, 20. Sui generis, 21. Sui generis, 22. Sui generis, 23. Sui generis, 24. Sui generis, 25. Sui generis, 26. Sui generis, 27. Sui generis, 28. Sui generis, 29. Sui generis, 30. Sui generis, 31. Sui generis, 32. Sui generis, 33. Sui generis, 34. Sui generis, 35. Sui generis, 36. Sui generis, 37. Sui generis, 38. Sui generis, 39. Sui generis, 40. Sui generis, 41. Sui generis, 42. Sui generis, 43. Sui generis, 44. Sui generis, 45. Sui generis, 46. Sui generis, 47. Sui generis, 48. Sui generis, 49. Sui generis, 50. Sui generis, 51. Sui generis.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1989 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

WIN THEM ONE BY ONE

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 9 6 5
♥ K 5 4 2
♦ A 7 4
♣ K 6 3

EAST
♠ K J 8
♥ A 9 8 3
♦ J 8
♣ 10 9 5 2

SOUTH
♠ A Q 7 4 2
♥ 6
♦ K 5 3
♣ A 8 7 4

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
4 ♠ Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♠
There's nothing wrong with being an aggressive bidder. However, you and your partner had better possess sound play technique if you still want to be solvent by year's end.

North's sequence showed a limit raise in spades (10-12 points) with only three trumps. However, because of the square hand, no intermediate cards and lack of a spade honor, we feel a raise to two spades would have been more than adequate.

quate. That would probably have been the final contract.
West led the queen of hearts and declarer, Dora Brechner of New York and Tel Aviv, was not thrilled with her contract. However, there were some chances. The queen of hearts was allowed to win the first trick, and the heart continuation was ruffed. Declarer ducked a club and West shifted to a diamond.

Declarer rose with dummy's ace and finessed the queen of trumps, breathing a sigh of relief when that held. After cashing the ace of trumps, she crossed to the king of clubs and ruffed another heart. To avoid having a winner ruffed should a defender be able to discard a diamond, declarer cashed the king of diamonds, then the ace of clubs. When West showed out but could not ruff, all was well. Declarer's last club was ruffed in dummy and the king of hearts was led from the table. Whether or not East was able to ruff this trick, declarer's last trump was destined to become the fulfilling trick. As the cards lay, East had to follow and declarer was able to score her trump by ruffing. On the last trick, the defenders had a field day—West's winning diamond was topped by East's master trump!

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1989

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Early morning and late afternoon hours are promising many important tasks that were at the top of your list, but you will experience some minor set back in the evening if you try to push too hard with your romantic partner.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) It is a good day to entertain and be entertained in public. A good day to add charm and beauty to your residence.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) A person with ideas different from yours can solve a home problem. Listen well to understand what your attachment would really like you to do.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) All kinds of new money opportunities will soon be yours. Don't let doubt arise in your mind about your attachment's devotion.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Be tactful now with friends who will be making unreasonable demands. A new approach at your business and financial affairs will be good for you.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) A good day to know how best to get your business affairs operating on a sound structure. A good day to have your helpful confidantes come into your home.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Avoid being away from your duties by an impulse to take a trip. Your home will be humming with activity if you go along with it.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) A recent acquaintance who is unusual will now make your life more exciting. Short trips with

your family today will bring you happiness.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Accept those who are artistically or musically talented into your life. A trip with a bigwig and your attachment would produce good results.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Entertain a younger new person from a distance in your home. Do something practical to please your attachment now.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Get a social expert to give you hints how best to entertain your friends. Invite practical minded persons into your home and get ideas from them.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Be ready on a moment's notice to accept social obligations. Giving your attachment more freedom will bring you more romantic affection.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You can make your property more attractive by some additions. Take out and entertain your friends today where they will be most impressed.

Today's child: If your child were born today he or she will be one of those highly energetic and resourceful persons who quickly understands most of the circumstances that they find themselves involved in and instinctively knows how to relate to other individuals who need help in solving their problems. A comprehensive education will help them achieve their goals.

"The stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you.

RANOW
A FISH CALLED WANDA
Tel: 677426

CONCORD
YOUNG GUNS
Tel: 677426

PHILADELPHIA
TWO MOON JUNCTION
Tel: 634144

NUOUM
Nadia Al Jundi
In
TERRORISM
(Arabic)
Tel: 675571

PLAZA
Jack Nicholson & Kim Basinger
BATMAN
Tel: 674111

SPORTS IN BRIEF

EDBERG AIMS AT DAVIS CUP: Stefan Edberg believes his victory over Boris Becker in the Masters tennis tournament could be the key to Sweden's Davis Cup. "I believe we have a good chance," Edberg said of Sweden's Davis Cup hope. "Boris is really the key to their team. If I can manage to beat him or if Mats Wilander can beat him, then we have a good chance." Edberg and Wilander will lead Sweden into the Davis Cup final against defending champion West Germany and Becker on Dec. 15-17 in Stuttgart, West Germany. On Sunday, Edberg captured the year-ending Masters tennis tournament, defeating Becker 4-6, 7-6 (8-6), 6-3, 6-1 at Madison Square Garden. Sweden has dominated Davis Cup play, having reached the final of the team tennis event every year since 1983. The Swedes won in 1984, defeating the United States, in 1985, defeating West Germany, and in 1987, defeating India. Last year, West Germany won, crushing Sweden 4-1 behind Becker.

WIMBLEDON SHOWS RECORD PROFITS: The 1989 Wimbledon tennis championships made a record profit of £9.2 million (\$14.3 million), according to the British Lawn Tennis Association annual report. The figure, up from £7.6 million (\$11.8 million) last year, is expected to be officially announced next Monday.

WORLD CUP SOCCER TROPHY ARRIVES IN ITALY: The trophy to be awarded at next year's World Cup soccer championship arrived in Rome on Sunday amid tight security. The solid gold cup was presented by Julio Grondona, president of the Argentine Soccer Federation, to Antonio Matarrese, his Italian counterpart, at Rome's Leonardo da Vinci airport. Argentina won the last World Cup, held in 1986 in Mexico. It had kept the cup until returning it Sunday. A police helicopter circled above the airport as the cup changed hands, and police guarded the coveted prize on the ground. The trophy was then taken under police escort to a vault in the Banca Nazionale del Lavoro, a state bank. It will be on display at Rome's Palazzo arena during the official draw on Dec. 8, when the 24 teams that qualified for the 1990 World Cup will be divided into six groups. The World Cup final is scheduled for July 8 in Rome.

THOMPSON PULLS OUT OF COMMONWEALTH GAMES: Former Olympic decathlon champion Daley Thompson's hopes of winning a record fourth Commonwealth Games gold medal in Auckland next month ended on Monday. Coach Frank Dick said Thompson was "not quite ready" for the games but stressed he was not retiring. His new target is the defence of his European title in split, Yugoslavia, in August. Thompson, 31, took the decathlon gold medal at the 1978, '82 and '86 Commonwealth games but has been troubled by a knee injury for some time. The world record holder underwent an operation in October and, although he has made a full recovery, the interruption to his training programme has caused his withdrawal. Dick said: "The basic reason for Daley pulling out is that, although everything is going exactly to plan and he is back in training, to accelerate things at this point might just be asking a bit too much. He is not quite ready. I personally think he would have gone pretty well in Auckland but it seems sensible to give the Commonwealth games a miss. It would be bad judgement at this point."

SOVIET FIRST DIVISION TO HAVE MORE TEAMS: The Soviet first division will be enlarged next season from 16 to 18 teams as a result of sweeping changes being made by the country's soccer federation, the government daily Izvestia said Monday. Three points instead of two will be awarded for a win in an attempt to make the league more competitive. Two new second divisions consisting of 19 teams each will be created to replace the current single division which comprises 22 clubs. Leading clubs from the zonal third divisions will make up the numbers. Lokomotiv Moscow and Zenit Leningrad, who were to have been relegated at the end of the last season, would stay in the first division and would be joined by Cska and Guria, who finished top of the second division, the paper said.

FOR SALE

- Mercedes 200, model 1979, lemon colour, sunroof. Excellent condition. Duty unpaid.
- Almost new Tandy (U.S.A.) I.B.M. PC compatible computer, complete with printer.
- J.V.C colour TV and video. Remote control.
- Canon Typestar 7 Typewriter.

Telephone: (Irbid) 271100 Ext. 3435. Dr. Sarjit.

WANTED

A domestic worker, full-time, to work for small family.

For appointment call telephone: 834671

BEAUTY CENTRE

Needs female massage, manicure, and pedicure expert with minimum two years experience.

Send complete details to P.O. Box 2037 - Jabal Amman.

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan Ministry of Public Works and Housing Government Tenders Directorate Second Time Announcement For Invitation of Tender No. 51/89/Central

The Water Authority of the Ministry of Water and Irrigation through the Government Tenders Directorate/Ministry of Public Works and Housing is soliciting technical and financial proposals from U.S. Consulting Engineering Firms in association with Jordanian Consultants, the qualification of the Jordanian Consultants (Jordanian Consultants, or joint venture of two Jordanian Consulting Engineering) should be classified in the Jordanian Engineering Association in the field of water sewerage, electrical, mechanical, roads or structural projects; for technical and economic feasibility study and final design of the upgrading and expansion of the waste water stabilisation pond system at As Samra.

As Samra waste stabilization pond (WSP) complex is located 40 km north-east of Amman. It treats the sewage of about half the population of Jordan, from those parts of the Greater Amman Municipality, Zarqa, Ruseifa and other smaller communities. The ponds are designed in three parallel trains. In each train there are two anaerobic ponds, four facultative ponds and four maturation ponds. The objectives of this study are: to review the design and the operating results of the WSP system, to assess the environmental effects of the system, to recommend and design improvements to increase the efficiency of the existing ponds and the design additional treatment capacity to serve the needs of the present and future connected area to the year 2005. USAID/Jordan will finance the required study under TSFS V Project (278-0266).

A potential U.S. consulting firm associated with (Jordanian Consultants, or joint venture of two Jordanian Consulting Engineering); may obtain the terms of reference from Mr. Abraham Grayson, Chief Engineer (AIDW, ENGR, Room No. 3321A, Telephone No. (202) 647-8094, Washington, D.C., 20523, or from the Tenders Division, Water Authority, P.O. Box 2412, Amman, Jordan, Tel.: 680100.

The technical and the financial proposals shall be submitted to the Director, Government Tenders Directorate, Ministry of Public Works and Housing, P.O. Box 1220, Amman, Jordan, Tel.: 68481, Telex 21944 MPW JO. Submittal and proposals shall be not later than 13:30 of Saturday, Jan. 6, 1990.

Director/ Government Tenders Directorate
Chairman of the Central Tenders Committee
Eng. Salem Qudsh

Salvador rebels use SAM

SAN SALVADOR (R) — Leftist rebels fired heat-seeking missiles at Salvadoran jets during air attacks in southern El Salvador Monday but missed their targets, the armed forces said.

During fierce combat in Zacatecoluca, the provincial capital, 55 kilometres south of San Salvador, rebels fired four Soviet-made SAM-7 missiles at fast-flying A-37 air force jets, but the missiles went astray, an armed forces spokesman said.

While fighting raged for more than eight hours in Zacatecoluca Monday, the government eased a nationwide curfew and allowed radio news programmes to return to the air.

The dusk-to-dawn curfew was reduced by five hours — now from 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. — after a weekend of calm in San Salvador.

The curfew was first declared Nov. 12, the day after the start of the leftist rebel offensive in which more than 2,000 rebels and soldiers have died in three weeks of fighting, according to the armed forces.

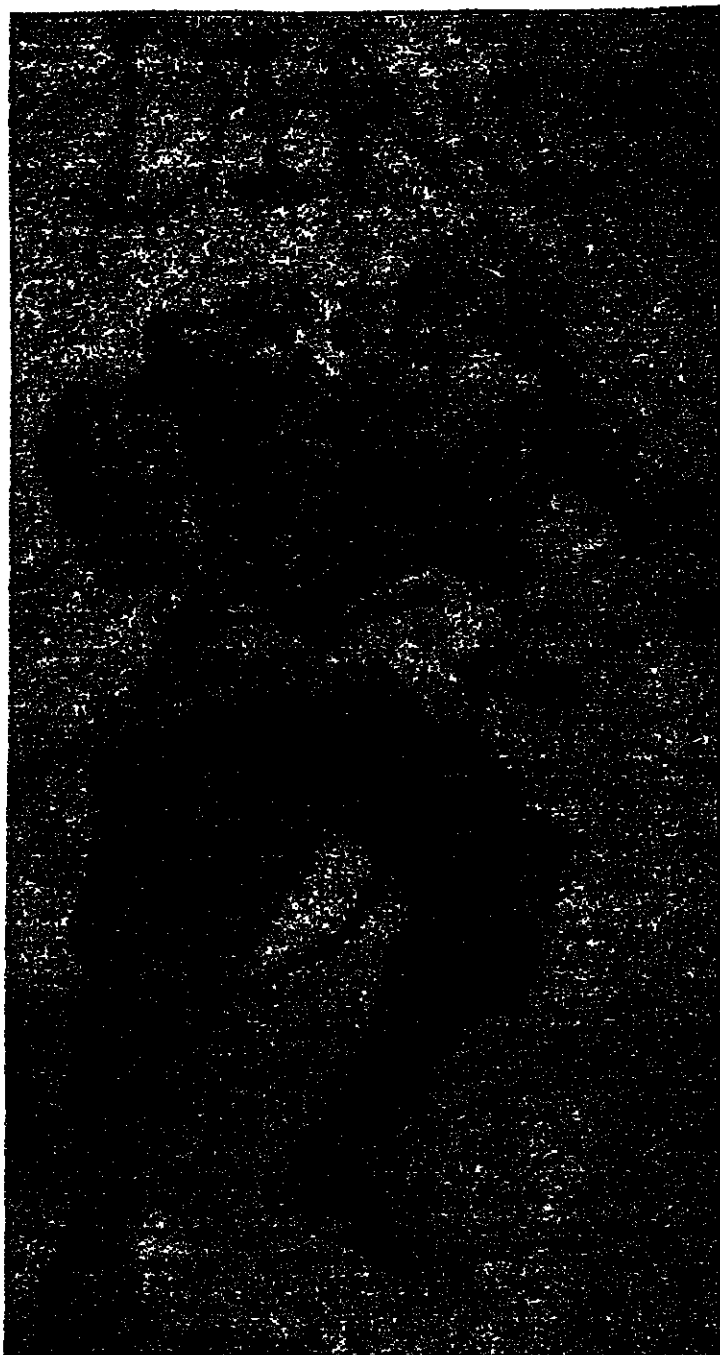
But on the first night with the reduced curfew, a series of powerful explosions rocked the northwestern sections of San Salvador late Monday.

The blasts, accompanied by sporadic fire of automatic rifles, were centred near the slopes of the San Salvador volcano and the wealthy Escalon neighbourhood, where rebels have launched two major assaults during the offensive, police said. They had no further details on the explosions.

In Zacatecoluca, the armed forces said eight guerrillas were killed and one government soldier wounded during the combat, that began at 3 a.m. (0900 GMT) and ended around midday.

One woman was killed when a rocket-propelled grenade landed on her house and a child died after being caught in crossfire between the two sides, the spokesman said.

President Alfredo Cristiani suspended diplomatic relations with Nicaragua for allegedly supplying the rebels with the missiles after a light plane crashed carrying 24 SAM-7s two weeks into the offensive.



A Salvadoran soldier aims a rifle in Soyapango, San Salvador, as government forces advance towards rebel positions. Graffiti on wall reads "Dialogue."

Cristiani reported the rebels had used SAM-7s for the first time last week but they have yet to down air force jets, which along with other aircraft have been used with devastating effect during the offensive.

The armed forces spokesman said rebels had retreated to the flanks of a volcano above Zacatecoluca, after advancing to a war-torn hospital inside the city limits.

In San Salvador, a pre-trial

hearing for a U.S. churchworker charged with hoarding arms for the rebels was postponed Monday because of confusion over how to enforce El Salvador's state of siege laws.

Connecticut native Jennifer Casolo could make her first court appearance Tuesday facing charges under recently approved "anti-terrorist" laws, court officials said.

Bush upbeat after summit

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President George Bush says Mikhail S. Gorbachev seems "very much in control" in the Soviet Union and committed to peaceful change.

While refusing to proclaim the cold war over, Bush said Gorbachev's acceptance of dramatic reforms in Eastern Europe "absolutely mandates new thinking" by the West.

Bush returned to the White House Monday night after two days of summit talks in Malta and a stop in Brussels to brief NATO leaders. He was greeted by his wife, Barbara, who got a kiss, and dog, Millie, who got a pat.

As soon as he got to his private White House quarters, Bush called Philippine President Corason Aquino to express concern for the lives of Americans trapped in hotels in Manila by rebel forces trying to overthrow her.

Bush paid tribute to her courage in seeking to quell the rebellion, White House Press Secretary Marlin Fitzwater said. Aquino, Fitzwater said, assured

Bush her government was doing everything possible to protect Americans.

Bush, in a concession to possible jet lag from trans-Atlantic travel, pushed back his schedule one hour Tuesday, receiving his daily intelligence briefing in the Oval Office at 9 a.m. (1400 GMT) instead of 8 a.m. Later he was to brief his cabinet on the Malta summit.

Bush was in high spirits Monday after giving NATO leaders an assessment of the summit. He said he assured them the United States would maintain "significant military forces in Europe as long as our allies desire our presence."

At the same time, Bush said he would "kick our bureaucracy" and urge other Western countries to complete work on a treaty between NATO and the Warsaw Pact to reduce troops, tanks, artillery and other conventional forces in Europe by next year.

Bush told NATO leaders he hoped a multinational summit could be convened in Europe

next summer to sign such an accord.

He said he wants that treaty "in the bank" before seeking deeper reductions. Negotiations working on the accord in the Austrian capital are making brisk progress but several issues are unresolved, most significantly a dispute over the kind of Soviet airplanes to be scrapped.

Asked if Gorbachev acted like a man in jeopardy, Bush said: "He seemed very much in control. You could tell the way he interacted with his own top people there. And he felt very confident in discussing without notes a wide array of subjects with me."

Bush said he hoped the West could take steps to ease Soviet economic woes.

"We want to try to meet him on some of the areas where he needs help. I'm thinking of a few suggestions I had in the economic area," he said. "But I also believe that the West must remain strong and together and try to be helpful where we can in a united way, but not be imprudent."

Bush said "it wasn't all sweetness and light" between himself and Gorbachev, mentioning they disagreed over Central America.

However, Bush said: "As I watched the way in which Mr. Gorbachev has handled the changes in Eastern Europe, it deserves new thinking. It absolutely mandates new thinking."

Bush also commended Gorbachev for supporting a conventional arms treaty that would require the Warsaw Pact to disproportionately reduce his forces to bring them down to NATO's level.

Asked if the cold war was over, Bush said: "We're fooling around with semantics here. I don't want to give you a headline. ... Things have moved dramatically but if I signal to you there's no cold war, then it's, 'what are you doing with troops in Europe?'"

Yet Bush had been willing to talk about cold war in a Thanksgiving speech previewing the summit when he said, "Let us move beyond containment and once and for all end the cold war."

Trident launched amid protest

ABOARD THE USNS RANGE SENTINEL (R) — The U.S. navy test fired a Trident II missile from a submarine off the Florida coast Monday after its surface ships surrounded and rammed a hole in the side of a boat used by anti-nuclear protesters bent on disrupting the test.

Launched from the submerged USS Tennessee, the unarmed missile thrust out of the Atlantic Ocean, ignited, and streaked towards an undisclosed target at 10:40 a.m. local time (1540 GMT).

"We did a perfect launch, just beautiful," said Vice Admiral Roger Bacon, commander of the Atlantic submarine fleet on board the USNS Range Sentinel.

The launch followed a morning of struggle between the 57-metre NV Greenpeace crewed by the protesters and several navy ships determined to clear the area for the test and not allow a repeat of a July 28 test halted by Greenpeace.

The launch Monday was late by 31 minutes, the time it took navy ships to surround and trap the Greenpeace, allowing the submarine to get into clear water for the test shot.

Bacon told Reuters the Dutch-registered Greenpeace was "bumped and damaged" by the USS grasp.

He said the navy ship mistakenly rammed the Greenpeace while it sprayed the protest ship with water from fire hoses. He said the bump knocked a hole in the hull of the Greenpeace about one-metre above the water line.

Greenpeace said it was "outraged by attacks on our ships and crew."

"I want to emphasize that is a peaceful protest in international waters. They are crippling our boat and endangering the lives of our crew," said Greenpeace spokeswoman Shannon Fagan.

A Reuters reporter on board the Greenpeace said navy ships resembling tagboats played a high speed version of bumper cars, repeatedly slamming into the side of the Greenpeace, often hitting just a few feet from where crewmembers were standing.

Soviet Union finally joins renunciation of invasion

MOSCOW (R) — Moscow has belatedly joined its Warsaw Pact allies in denouncing the 1968 Soviet-led invasion of Czechoslovakia that crushed the "Prague spring" reforms.

A joint declaration was issued Monday after a Warsaw Pact meeting in Moscow, at which Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev briefed members on his Malta summit with U.S. President George Bush.

"The dispatch of troops of (Warsaw Pact) states to Czechoslovakia was interference in the internal affairs of sovereign Czechoslovakia and must be condemned," it said.

"Interrupting the process of democratic renewal in Czechoslovakia, these illegal acts had long-term negative consequences."

It was the first time Moscow had formally changed its stand that the invasion was undertaken at the request of Prague authorities to prevent subversion and counter-revolution.

The invasion halted sweeping changes begun by Czechoslovak leader Alexander Dubcek.

Many of Dubcek's reforms are

viewed as the basis of Gorbachev's perestroika programme which has inspired change throughout Eastern Europe and led to the collapse of hardline regimes in East Germany, Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia and democratic reforms in Poland and Hungary.

The declaration, reproduced by the official TASS news agency, was signed by all members except Czechoslovakia and Romania. Romania was the only Warsaw Pact country to denounce the 1968 invasion and to refuse to join in.

Eastern European sources said Gorbachev had proposed the declaration. Moscow was the last Warsaw Pact member to denounce the invasion.

Poland and Hungary criticised the invasion after the installation of multi-party systems this year. East Germany, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria condemned it amid the turmoil that has overturned their leaderships.

A separate statement issued by the Soviet government described the decision to invade the country as "unbalanced and inadequate."

and said it led to increased East-West tension.

It said Moscow shared the viewpoint of the Czechoslovak leadership that the action "was groundless and the decision concerning it was a mistake in the light of all facts known today."

There had been growing indications in recent weeks that the Soviet Union was about to reverse its long-held stand on the 1968 invasion.

Last month, the weekly Moscow News published for the first time a letter from a Soviet author highly critical of the invasion and dismissing as "Stalinist" the leadership that subsequently took over in the country.

During his visit to Italy last week, Gorbachev suggested that Moscow's response to the Prague spring had been "not quite appropriate."

Of the Dubcek reform programme, he said: "It was right at that time and it is right now."

Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov told reporters in Italy that a joint Czechoslovak-Soviet commission could be set up to reassess the events of 1968.

Soviets jab U.S. over limiting emigrant visas

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev tweaked U.S. President George Bush at their Malta summit for the U.S. refusal to grant visas to many thousands of would-be Soviet emigrants, according to a Soviet spokesman.

Gennady Gerasimov, chief spokesman for the Soviet Foreign Ministry, told reporters aboard a flight returning to Moscow from Malta that Bush raised the human rights issue by presenting Gorbachev with a list of couples the United States claims are separated by the Soviet's refusal to grant exit visas to one spouse.

Presentation of such lists, which until recently contained the names of thousands of Soviets who had been refused permission to emigrate, has been a ritual of high-level meetings between the United States and the Soviet Union for years. But under Gorbachev, the lists have been shrinking steadily, and the divided spouses list now contains only a handful of names.

When Bush presented it during the talks aboard the Soviet cruise ship Maxim Gorky, Gerasimov said, "we had a very long list of Soviet citizens who want to go to the United States and can't get visas, which is a little bit against the Universal Declaration of Human Rights."

The spokesman said later he was joking about the Soviets giving Bush their own list but that Gorbachev did respond to the U.S. presentation by pointing out to Bush that thousands of Soviets line up outside the U.S. embassy in Moscow daily seeking visas.

The United States, inundated by the flood of Soviets now being given permission to emigrate, has drastically limited the number of Soviets given refugee status as victims of persecution and expects to turn away 200,000 would-be immigrants in the next year.

Soviet officials have estimated that four million to five million Soviet citizens will leave the country under a new law permitting most people who want to

leave to do so.

Gerasimov said Bush had offered to begin negotiations immediately on a trade agreement with the Soviet Union without waiting for expected congressional granting the Soviet Union most-favoured-nation status, a trading privilege denied for years to punish the Soviets for preventing free emigration.

He said the Soviet side reacted "very favourably" to Bush's proposal to halt production of binary chemical weapons upon the signing of an international convention banning all chemical weapons. Gerasimov called it an important initiative but only "one step in the right direction" towards a comprehensive chemical weapons ban.

He also said Gorbachev, to illustrate the Soviets' concern about being surrounded by U.S. military forces, presented Bush with a classified map showing all U.S. bases ringing Soviet territory.

Column 80000

Dog shoots man

OSLO (R) — A Norwegian hunter was shot when one of his hounds stepped on a gun, police said Tuesday. The 50-year-old hunter was taking a coffee break with two companions when Terma, a one-year-old hare hound, trod on a pile of loaded shotguns which had been left lying on the ground. Pellets ricocheted off a rock and hit the hunter in the face and arm. He was not seriously hurt. Police said Terma, who is being trained to become a skilled hare hound, would be given a second chance. "But I think she needs some more training," a spokesman said.

'Bardot was right'

SAINT-TROPEZ, France (R) — A French court has awarded damages to former film sex-symbol Brigitte Bardot, sued by a neighbour for having his over-amorous donkey castrated. Jean-Pierre Manivet last month asked for damages totalling 24,500 francs (\$4,080) from Bardot, who admitted ordering the animal castrated for trying to mount her donkey. Dismissing the application, the court in this southern resort town showered praise on Bardot, an animal rights campaigner, and rebuked Manivet for trying to tarnish her image. It said that by giving wide publicity to the donkey affair, Manivet was "attempting to discredit the cause of animal rights, to which Brigitte Bardot...has dedicated herself." Manivet was ordered to pay damages of 20,000 francs (\$3,330). Bardot, who lives near Saint-Tropez, was not in court.

Dogs out of job

BONN, (R) — Thousands of dogs trained to attack humans along East Germany's borders with the West have been confined to barracks and nobody knows what to do with them. West German animal lovers said. Up to 10,000 dogs, mostly German Shepherds, were trained to attack East Germans trying to escape to the West. But the dogs are out of a job now the Berlin Wall has been breached and border restrictions have vanished. Animal Protection Society head Andre Grasmueller said. He said West Europe's biggest animal lovers' society was willing to provide humane chemicals if the dogs had to be put down. Electrocuting is the usual method of putting dogs down in East Germany. Grasmueller said his group was offering financial and material help to ensure the dogs' well-being. He had made the offer directly to the East German government, as the country has no independently-run animal welfare group. He told Reuters many East German families had also said they were ready to help.

Walesa movie

BURBANK, California (AP) — The life of Polish union activist Lech Walesa will be documented in a \$20-million Warner Brothers movie, the studio announced Monday. The authorised biography of the Nobel Peace Prize-winning Solidarity leader will be produced by James W. Brubaker and Thom Mount beginning in 1990. Warner and the Mount Co. said. Walesa's story nine months ago from a group that included director Stanley Kramer. Because of Eastern European reforms, the film will be shot in Poland instead of West Germany as originally planned, according to the Hollywood Reporter, a trade publication. The Reporter also said Hollywood's hottest producers, Columbia Pictures co-chairmen Jon Peters and Peter Guber, hope to make the picture.

Global weather

(major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.
AMSTERDAM	00 22	44 28 Cloudy
ATHENS	05 41	57 37 Clear
BANGKOK	23 73	74 75 Rain
BARRAN	18 64	31 28 Clear
BELGRADE	18 64	26 78 Clear
BOMBAY	26 42	20 68 Clear
CHICAGO	-02 28	08 43 Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	-03 27	06 43 Cloudy
FRANKFURT	-03 21	02 38 Cloudy
GENEVA	-01 30	02 28 Cloudy
HONG KONG	17 68	22 72 Clear
ISTANBUL	04 30	10 50 Clear
LONDON	05 43	10 50 Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	18 55	25 78 Clear
MADRID	04 39	17 42 Rain
MECCA	23 73	26 43 Cloudy
MONTREAL	-18 00	-17 01 Snow
MOSCOW	-01 34	02 28 Cloudy
NEW DELHI	08 46	23 74 Clear
NEW YORK	-05 23	-02 27 Cloudy
PARIS	-02 26	05 41 Cloudy
ROME	-04 24	13 35 Cloudy
SYDNEY	08 19	25 38 Rain
TOKYO	10 50	17 42 Clear
VIENNA	-04 24	09 37 Cloudy



Red Army Faction claims killing

BONN (R) — West Germany's Red Army Faction (RAF) guerrillas said they killed top-banker Alfred Herrhausen last week in a letter received by news agencies Tuesday.

"We and the 'Wolfgang Beer Commando' executed the head of Deutsche Bank," said the letter, which was signed "Red Army Faction" and bore the group's symbol of a five-pointed star and a Kalashnikov rifle.

An earlier letter found near where Herrhausen's car was blown up by a remote-controlled bomb outside Frankfurt Thursday also carried the RAF symbol but had no text and was simply signed "Wolfgang Beer Commando."

Beer was a suspected RAF member who died in 1980. His brother Henning is believed to be a leading member of the group's commando unit.

The letter, posted in Karlsruhe Saturday, accused the Deutsche Bank of exploitation and called it a symbol of power and domination at the top of a "fascistic capital structure in Western Europe."

"(The bank) has been planning the invasion of Eastern Europe for years and now it and others are crouching in the starting blocks to subject the people there to its dictates and the logic of capitalist exploitation," it said.

The killing, the RAF's first major attack for several years, stunned West Germany.

Evolution of anti-Aquino coup predates Marcos

By Robert H. Reid
The Associated Press

MANILA — A messianic vision for their nation and bitterness over power denied have driven an elite clique of talented military officers to try repeatedly to depose the president they helped put in power.

Spearheading the current coup attempt against President Corason Aquino is the reform the armed forces movement, a clique of idealistic officers who banded together in 1985 to oppose the corruption of the military under late President Ferdinand Marcos.

Some members of the group, known as RAM, were behind coup attempts in November 1986, August 1987, as well as the current attempted putsch.

The "RAM boys" believe the Aquino administration, for all its democratic pretensions, represents the same system of nepotism, elitism and corruption as the Marcos government.

Last Saturday, RAM issued a

manifesto demanding the resignation of Aquino to pave the way for a referendum to decide the form of government in the Philippines.

The statement accused Aquino of pursuing the same ruinous policies of her predecessor and of failing to mediate social and economic reforms. In the past they also accused her of favouring leftists and codding Communist rebels while ignoring the interests of the armed forces.

RAM emerged publicly when they unfurled a banner during graduation exercises at the Philippine military academy saying "we belong." They were referred to as "born-again soldiers," committed to restoring discipline and professionalism in the ranks.

Members of the clique include some of the most talented members of the military. They include the charismatic renegade Colonel Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan, leader of the August 1987 attempted



Gregorio 'Gringo' Honasan coup and believed to be a key leader in the current fighting.

Their political philosophy seems similar of the fascists in Italy in the 1920s: society should be run by an orderly, disciplined and decisive approach to solving national problems.

By contrast, Aquino prefers consultation, where seemingly endless public debate produces a consensus which she accepts. She tends to rely heavily on people whose primary qualification is personal loyalty to her or her late husband, Benigno Aquino.

During the failed coup of August 1987, a young RAM lieutenant, Robert Lee, appeared on a commandeered television station to proclaim his movement's goals. Lee said Philippine society suffered from "too much politics" — endless debate without resolution.

The RAM clique became associated with then-Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile in a marriage of convenience based on their mutual opposition to Marcos' military chief of staff, Fabian Ver.

Ver, a distant relative of Marcos, had circumvented the chain of command by his relationship with the president and his wife, Imelda, and undermined Enrile's position as defence chief.

Ver had also solidified his power by appointing supporters to senior commands, regardless of merit. RAM officers, therefore, looked to Enrile as their mentor.

In 1985, as the Marcos administration weakened, RAM officers began to plot to overthrow the government and replace it with a junta which would force discipline and order on a chaotic society.

RAM sources say they planned to trigger a coup attempt in late 1985 but delayed the plot after Marcos announced special presidential elections for February 1986.

When Marcos used massive fraud to "win" the election against Corason Aquino, RAM issued a statement saying the "will of the people" had been foiled.

Plans were laid for a coup, in which soldiers in rubber boats would cross the Pasig River and storm the presidential palace.

But Ver learned of the plot

and ordered the arrest of Enrile and others. When Enrile found out that he was to be arrested, he and his "boys" withdrew to military headquarters in Camp Aguinaldo and declared opposition to Marcos.

But the move failed to win over enough units of the Philippine military to assure success.

Enrile and then-vice chief of staff Fidel Ramos appealed to Cardinal Jaime Sin and opposition groups for support.

Hundreds of thousands of people heeded the cardinal's call to turn out in the streets to "protect" the mutineers. RAM's cost for such support was declaration of support for Aquino as the rightful president.

But the RAM clique has always felt they were denied the power that was rightfully theirs. They risked their careers, their families and their lives to oust Marcos. Yet it was Aquino and his cadre of stalwarts, many of whom were bitterly anti-military, who ended up in power.